

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND

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DEATHS.

On August 20th, at Shanghai, ALICE DAISY, only child of Mr and Mrs. A. DAHL, age four years and two months.

On August 21st, at Shanghai, WILLIAM HOLLIDAY, aged 46 years.

On August 22nd, at Shanghai, ALFRED BARBER, M.B., C.M., aged 45 years.

Hongkong Weekly Press.

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ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The Siberian Mail of the 6th and 7th inst., arrived on the 29th instant.

The French Mail of the 30th ultimo arrived on the 29th inst.

FAR EASTERN NEWS.

The state of Asia was described by Lord Curzon in a recent speech as "one of unconcealed commotion."

It is officially stated that at the end of May this year the national debt of Korea amounted to 38,870,973 yen.

A site has been purchased by the Roman Catholic Church in Seoul with a view of establishing a university.

The death is announced of Mr. R. H. Powers, of Nagasaki, who had carried on business as a shipchandler at the port since 1868.

The Osaka Shosen Kaisha's new Pacific liner, the *Tacoma Maru*, had to put back to Seattle last week owing to a broken rudder.

The Rev. Matthew Fearnley, M.A., of Worthing, who died recently, had been for five years a missionary in China. He left estate worth £24,863.

The Philippine Government is being criticised for its policy of buying a large proportion of its supplies in foreign markets to the disadvantage of the local merchants.

The Directors of the Siam Steam Navigation Co., Ltd., recommend a dividend of 5 per cent for the past half-year and to carry Ticals 10,000 to reserve account.

The Dutch cruisers *de Ruyter*, *Tromp*, and *Koningin Regentes* were at Manila last week. Elaborate preparations were made for the entertainment of the visitors.

According to a telegram from Peking the Waiwupu has requested the Viceroy and Governors of the provinces to prohibit foreign vessels trading outside the limits of the treaty ports.

Despatches from Honan state that a drought is prevailing in many districts in the province. Unless rain comes shortly the rice crops will be greatly affected. The farmers are reported to be very anxious.

The Rev. C. J. Ferguson-Davie, the new Bishop of Singapore, was to be consecrated in St. Paul's Cathedral, London, on Tuesday, and will be enthroned in St. Andrew's Cathedral, Singapore, about November 25.

A Hankow contemporary chronicles the arrival there of Mr. H. G. C. Bailey, recently of the firm of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Masters, solicitors, Hongkong. Mr. Bailey intends to start practice in Hankow.

The Russian Government has received through the Governor-General of the Amur a request from Saghalien that the importation of Chinese labourers shall be permitted. It is not probable that the request will be granted.

Jungle rubber has become an important article of export from the French province of Laos. There are some fifteen firms in the province who buy, apart from the Chinese who have now taken up this branch of trade in serious fashion.

Mr. C. J. J. Roberts, late of the Standard Oil Co., Bangkok, whose extradition was not granted from Penang, and who went on to Colombo, where he was rearrested and remanded to the 13th, is held on the same warrant that was judged illegal in Penang.

We learn that upon representation by the British and Portuguese Ministers at Peking, the Self-Government Society of Canton is henceforth prohibited from holding meetings to discuss international questions and no more mention must be made re the *Fatshan* affair and the Macao Delimitation.

It is stated that Chou Fu, formerly Viceroy of Canton, will be appointed to the Naval Department. His Excellency was for many years with the late Marquis Li Hung Chang and helped in the organisation of the Navy.

The interest and responsibility of Mr. Camille Galland in the Tonkin establishments of Messrs. Speidel and Co. ceased on June 30th, when deed of partnership ended, and the new company consists of Messrs. Ulrich Speidel, R. Baur, F. W. Speidel, Walter Speidel, H. Meister, H. Prescher, F. Dobrowohl on one side and the heirs of the late Mr. C. Th. Speidel as sleeping partners on the other side.

The Nippon is authority for the statement that the Japanese Government is now approaching foreign capitalists through the Industrial Bank of Japan to float a loan for the purpose of introducing reforms in the Government railways. Under the existing state of affairs in Japan, says the journal, it is deemed impossible to raise a domestic loan for the purpose, and in consequence the authorities have been obliged to resort to the measure above referred to.

There are nearly 70 species of snakes in the Philippines, of which 30 species are poisonous. The most popular of the latter is the rice snake, the *duhan palay*. It is a slender, bright green-hued reptile, found among the rice stalks and also in trees. Its bite is supposed to be fatal, death ensuing in from 15 to 30 minutes. The natives believe that the leaves wither that the snake breathes upon. Cobras are also common. Among the cobras are the cobra de capela, or hooded cobra. An eight-foot specimen of the cobra has been found in Benguet, and others in Palawan, Samar, Leyte and Mindanao.

A special despatch to the *Cable News-American* from San Francisco states that there is a persistent rumour in the shipping circles to the effect that plans have been matured for a line of steamers to run direct to Manila. The project is said to be based on the expected increase in American imports to the islands due to the passage of the Payne-Aldrich tariff bill. A direct line of communication between Manila and the Pacific coast has been the roseate dream of Manila merchants. The advantages to the islands that would flow from such an arrangement are regarded by them as inestimable.

Mr. Fujiyama, President of the Japan Sugar Company, says, according to the *Asahi*:—"The financial condition of the Nitto Kaisha is not so much in disorder as the creditors may suppose. The company still possesses assets amounting in all to about Yen 1,000,000, which can be properly arranged with the approval of the Financial Department as well as that of the creditors. Even as to the working capital, it is not difficult to find means out of the above resources if the creditors raise no opposition. The only method that can be adopted for the financial adjustment are to decrease the amount of capital, to issue preferential shares and to redeem the debts by yearly instalments. We will propose at the next meeting of the creditors the draft that, we believe, will prove most advantageous to the shareholders as well as the creditors, sparing no efforts towards the recovery of the company. If the creditors will not make any concessions and take an obstructive line, I will manfully resign my post. I am expecting to settle the matter smoothly at the next meeting of the creditors. It is not necessary to run after Mr. Kaneko in order to ask for the reconsideration of Messrs. Suzuki's position."

Eighty arrests of Chinese and Filipinos have been made during the present month in the Philippines for the illegal importation and illegal use of opium.

Dr. Wu Ting Fang's return to China, our Peking contemporary says, is reported to be due to ill-health. He has telegraphed the Waiwupu asking to be relieved from duty at the Washington Legation and his request has been granted. Hence the new appointment.

Mr. Michael Hughes, lately H. M. Consul at Newchwang, and who was called to the Bar in January this year, is returning to Shanghai, where he will take up legal practice. Mr. Hughes recently obtained the degree of LL.D. from the Royal University of Ireland.

A Siamese adaptation of the comedy "Lady Huntworth's Experiment" was being played at Bangkok when the last mail left. The comedy was staged by the Bangkok Amateur Dramatic Society early this year, and Siamese actors and actresses were doubtless interested spectators of play.

At a recent meeting of the Committee of the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce a letter was read from Mr. Jacques Blumenfeld giving particulars as to the formation of an Exchange and asking the Committee to take the matter in hand as read. It was decided to reply that the Committee did not see their way to support the scheme.

We understand that the Macao Delimitation Conference is practically at a standstill. The Chinese Commissioner will await the arrival of the new Viceroy of Canton, whose approval is necessary to any action which he takes, before any further meetings are held. It is stated that there have been no concessions on either side so far.

Hankow is developing a business in frozen pigs, and Tientsin a business in frozen cattle. Large purchases of cattle are being made in the Chili and adjoining provinces. They are shipped from Tientsin to Chinwangtao, where they are killed, their carcasses frozen and then shipped under contract to Vladivostok. This new business, it is said, promises to grow into one of very large proportions.

Last week building operations were begun on the construction of another place of amusement for Shanghai. The building in question is to be a large foreign theatre for modern Chinese plays, situated at the corner of Rue du Consulat and Rue Touranne. The new theatre, which will be one of the largest in China, is to be completed by the end of the year at a cost approximately of \$50,000, and it is being erected from designs by Messrs. G. R. Grove & Co.

A Grand International Race Meeting will take place at Vladivostok, under the auspices of the Primorsky Race Club, on September 5, 8, 12, 15, 18 and 29, when some 180 specially imported horses will compete, including eighty-seven Japanese imported and country-bred racehorses. There will be eight flat races and one trotting race each day. During the Race Meeting all foreign hotels in Vladivostok will make a 25 per cent. reduction on the usual tariff rates.

All those who had anything to do with the building, fitting or launching of the large motor boat *Tien Ma* will be pleased to learn that she has more than fulfilled expectations on the run from Wuchow to Nanning. On the trial trip of the vessel in the harbour it was mentioned that this run would be accomplished in seven days, but news has just been received here from Mr. Banker, the owner of the vessel, that on her maiden trip the *Tien Ma* completed the voyage in four days.

It is reported in the Chinese press that Portugal has lately passed a new Extradition Act providing that no Chinese fugitive criminal in Macao shall be extradited unless his crime is proved by eight witnesses. The Acting Viceroy of the Liang-kwang Provinces has requested the Chinese Ministers to France, Spain and Portugal to demand the repeal of this law, on the ground that having regard to the fact that Macao is so close to Heungshan and the neighbouring districts many Chinese criminals have from time to time taken refuge in Macao, and the law will constitute a menace to China's internal peace. Moreover, the law is contrary to the treaties between China and Portugal.

The members of the Board of Finance have decided that as in all countries except China the issue of bank notes is exclusively in the hands of the Government Banks and as the practice of allowing banks established by Chinese merchants and foreigners to issue notes at will is contrary to the treaties, negotiations should be entered into with the foreigners for the withdrawal of their bank notes from circulation in China after the Chinese banks have done so.

The eight associated Chambers of Commerce on the Pacific Coast of America, including San Francisco, Oakland, San Diego, Los Angeles, Portland, Seattle, Spokane and Sacramento, have been asked by the Associated Chambers of Commerce of China (an Association we have never heard of before) to send delegates. It is expected, a San Francisco paper says, that a large number will take the occasion to inspect the resources of China. The paper adds that the Chinese are anxious to outdo the Japanese in the lavishness of their hospitality and are arranging to entertain the delegates on an extensive scale.

Mr. Fraser, the British Consul-General at Hankow, referring in his annual trade report to the export of food in cold storage to England says:—If successful, it seems likely that local prices will be affected except in the case of pigs, since the common black pig, whose flesh is the favourite food of the poor in China, is not found so suitable as the white Hunan and Kiangsi pigs. The attempt to buy fowls up country and fatten them here did not prove a success, as the sudden change to superabundant rich diet resulted in the death of most of the native birds accustomed to forage for themselves in the field.

Dr. Martin R. Edwards, of the Harvard Medical School, has arrived in China for the purpose, it is announced, of establishing, either at Nanking or Hankow, a branch school of that institution and also a laboratory for the purposes of studying diseases peculiar to China. It is stated that the Harvard trustees have set aside a fund of half a million gold dollars for the purpose of furthering this work. Dr. Edwards will first visit Nanking where he will make a study of the work being done in the hospitals already established there, and from there will proceed to Kiukiang, Kuling and Hankow. He will consult with men now in medical work in China as to the best way to further the project he has in hand.

The British Commissioner at Weihaiwei, Sir J. H. Stewart Lockhart, in his report for 1908, says:—"A large number of Japanese fishing junks arrived during the summer for the purpose of shark fishing on the high seas—a comparatively new industry in this neighbourhood. They erected a fishing camp of bamboo and matting on the beach, some two miles from Port Edward, where the fish were dried and cut up. The fishing season lasts, roughly, for three months—June to August—and the fish are esteemed a great delicacy both by Chinese and Japanese. It is understood that the pecuniary results of the first year's fishing were most successful," and therefore it is expected that operations will be continued this year.

Shanghai papers record with regret the death of Mr. Holliday, manager of the machinery department of the firm of Messrs. Holliday, Wise & Co. Mr. Holliday, who was 46 years of age, had been in ill-health for some time prior to his death, but not seriously. On Wednesday last Mr. Holliday was so unfortunate as to sustain a dislocated right arm in a ricksha accident and as a result he had to be operated upon. The patient felt the intense heat and he is reported to have collapsed from shock and the heat. Mr. Holliday had been in China for many years. In 1899 he joined the staff of the Imperial Naval College at Nanking as professor of engineering, and he was in that city during the Boxer troubles when Nanking was known to be in great danger, and Mrs. Holliday was sent down the river on a man-of-war. Later Mr. Holliday joined Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. as manager of their machinery department. He next went into business on his own account under the style of William Holliday & Co., but he was unfortunate and the business was closed down. He then became manager of Messrs. Holliday, Wise & Co.'s machinery department and remained in that position until recently.

THE NEED OF FINANCIAL REFORM.

(Daily Press, August 21st.)

Attention has of late been called in many directions to the pressing necessity which exists of reform in the matter of Chinese finance. Schemes of general improvement and of representative government have been largely discussed, but the chief factor in any such reforms must of necessity be of a financial nature, and, unfortunately, to deal with this portion of the subject is a task which cannot but tax the ingenuity of even Chinese officials very severely. The chief difficulty is that, from the manner in which financial matters have always been conducted in China, their direction is not under complete central control. A certain portion of the revenue is levied directly by the authority of the Central Government, but a large amount of it is derived from taxes which are completely under the direction of the Provincial officials. This has become so fully recognised as the *modus operandi* that it must be a very difficult matter to bring about any effective change. At the same time, there can be no doubt that both the Central and the Provincial authorities would be the gainers by the finance being placed upon a definite footing and dealt with in its entirety, under central control. If a scheme could be devised which would attain this end, other matters would follow in their natural course. The relations between the Peking Government and the Provinces would be the first thing that would have to be settled—and this would have to be done upon a very clear and definite footing. If, however, this were accomplished, the way would be opened for other reforms, but until this is done, things are likely to go on for ever in their old unsatisfactory manner. What is required is that the Peking Authorities should take this whole subject in hand—and they might do well to employ some first-rate European financier to assist them in the task. Nothing, however, could be done without the loyal co-operation of the Provincial authorities, and this, unfortunately, it is very difficult to secure, in face of the many time-honoured abuses which exist in regard to all taxation in China. There can be no question that a thorough reform of Chinese finance would entail sacrifices of individual interests—and that much local discontent would be engendered. A vast number of underlings, who get their "picking" out of various forms of taxation at present in vogue, would have to be dispensed with; and, of course, they would have a great deal to say against the changes which put an end to their offices. This, however, is a difficulty which, by reasonable action, in the way of compensation or otherwise, might be dealt with, and it would really not form a serious obstacle if the authorities, both Provincial and Central were determined to introduce the necessary reforms. Unfortunately, very little is known to Europeans as to the details of financial matters in China—and thus a great deal in the way of useful suggestion by well qualified Europeans, which, with their business and mathematical powers, the Chinese could turn to valuable account, is lost to them. Beyond the *likin* dues, which directly affect commerce, Europeans know little of the sources of Chinese revenue or its mode of collection. From time to time they may hear of some particular imposition which causes discontent, but no exact details of how the large revenue which is necessary for governing the country is procured are obtainable; and the most that is known by those best informed on

Chinese matters is of a very general and vague description. It is known that the Provincial Authorities are allowed a tolerably free hand as to matters of taxation, provided they send a reasonable amount to Peking; and that a good deal of irregularity and "squeezing" finds its way into the carrying out of this system. On the whole, however, there is no doubt that sufficient revenue is found, and that, too, without (so far as appears) any very great pressure, so that there can be very little question as to the taxable resources of the country, and as to its being able to hold its own, if only the finances are placed upon a sound basis. What is mainly required is that there should be a definite understanding between the Central and the Provincial Authorities as to the proportion of taxation which should be applied for Imperial purposes by the Authorities at Peking and by the Provincial and subordinate officials for local purposes. If the matter were taken in hand by the Peking Authorities with this object in view, there can be little doubt that their experience and knowledge of details would enable them to arrive at a fair adjustment of this point, and this once done a basis would be arrived at upon which the finance of the whole country could be worked upon a footing that would be comparatively simple and, what is of most importance, would be above board and, as far as can be, definite.

It is, of course, manifest that the finance of the country is so essentially an internal matter for the management of the Chinese themselves that any scheme of foreign assistance could not be pressed upon the Chinese Government. At the same time, if they themselves desired such aid, there could be no reason why they should not obtain it, and why something might not be done to improve the financial administration generally, possibly in a similar way to what has been so successfully done with regard to the Inspectorate of Customs. At all events, very valuable assistance might be afforded in the way of advice, if not actually in an executive capacity, by some expert financier who would be able to detect at once the points at which improvement is necessary, and might strengthen the hands of the Peking Government (which is notoriously weak in this respect) in enforcing an improved system on the Provincial Authorities. It would probably be found that no very serious changes would be required and that what really is wanted is rather an improvement in administration than in respect to the main sources from which revenue is derived.

CUSTOMS DUTY AT HONGKONG?

(Daily Press, August 23rd.)

In view of the destructive criticisms which have been passed upon the Hongkong Government's proposal to obtain additional revenue by increasing the fees for licences to sell alcoholic liquor in the Colony, we presume the Government is not likely to further press this measure upon the Legislative Council. Indeed, having regard to the non-committal character of the speech made by H.E. the GOVERNOR when these proposals were laid before the Council ten days ago, we are probably not wrong in assuming that the expression of public opinion embodied in the resolutions transmitted to the Government by the Unofficial Members will be most cordially welcomed by the Government. The leading proposal is that a duty be imposed on all Foreign and Chinese alcoholic liquors imported and consumed in the Colony, but it is rather disappointing to find that the Unofficial Members do not state what in their opinion is the best

method of levying this impost. We cannot doubt that their deliberations extended to this important aspect of the question, and until the method it is proposed to adopt is announced not much is to be gained by further discussion of the proposal to levy duty on all alcoholic liquors sold in the Colony. The proposal appeals to the community as the only fair method of raising revenue from such a source, as the impost would then be borne alike by the licence-holders, the clubs and the private importers. Every consumer of alcoholic liquor, and not one small section only, would shoulder the burden. Public opinion does not go farther than that. How that duty is to be levied is another question. The Unofficial Members of the Council speak of the suggested impost as an "import duty." What we all now want to know is whether this involves the setting up of a Customs establishment in the port? If so, what is the estimated cost thereof? Also what rate of duty will be necessary to answer the requirements of the Government with regard to revenue, and to cover the cost of a Customs service, which, it seems to us, would have to be a considerable establishment? Again, how easy would it be, when once the Customs machinery is provided, to extend its functions to other imports? Verily it would be "the thin end of the wedge." It would probably cost nearly as much to maintain a Customs service to protect the revenue from alcoholic liquors as it would to protect the revenue under a general import tariff. Two methods by which a Customs establishment in the Colony can be avoided were suggested, so far as the import of foreign wines and spirits is concerned, in the two letters published in our issue of Tuesday last. "British Colonial" suggested what may be described as an Inland Revenue Tax, viz., that on every bottle of wine, spirits or beer, manufactured or bottled in the Colony and sold for consumption in the Colony, an adhesive stamp should be placed over the cork in such a manner that it must be destroyed when the bottle is opened; and on wholesale imports levy a tax of so much per cent. To bring the private importer into the net it was suggested that the Government should require the shipping companies to furnish a return of all imports of wines, beer and spirits imported into the Colony. It may at first sight appear easy for the private importer to evade the duty by getting his wines and spirits shipped as nails or piece goods or mineral waters, or anything else that is non-taxable, but if we are correct in saying that all liquors imported from abroad are put on ships from bonded warehouses, the risk of evasion is small. The responsibility of seeing that there is no misdescription falls on the Customs authorities at the port of export; and, moreover, if we had no Customs establishment to maintain, the amount of the import could be of such a nominal character as not to make it worth the while of any private importer to resort to smuggling. Another correspondent, writing over the name of "Observer," detailed a method whereby the tax might be collected at Home before export. There are defects probably in both these schemes, but in view of the recommendation made to the Government by the Unofficial Members of Council they are well worthy of the most careful consideration. The greatest difficulty is as regards the import of Chinese liquors. The Unofficial Members are opposed to a Spirit Farm. What is the alternative? Is it necessarily an expensive Customs establishment? Cannot the import of Chinese liquors be dealt with under the Inland Revenue

scheme suggested by "British Colonial"? It does not seem to us impossible. The Government are no doubt in accord with the community in wishing to avoid the establishment of a Customs service in the port, and we feel sure the most careful consideration will be given to every suggestion made with that object in view. The result of their deliberations on the subject will be eagerly awaited.

EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES AT THE PEAK.

(Daily Press, August 24th.)

Two letters appeared in the *Daily Press* last week concerning the lack of educational facilities at the Peak, and surprise has been expressed to us that there have not been a dozen or a score of letters endorsing the suggestion that the Government should establish at the Peak a Kindergarten School. An elementary school of some kind has long been needed at the Peak, and a school on the Kindergarten system seems well calculated to meet the special need of the district. We do not know what the juvenile population of the Peak actually is, but we are probably not far wrong in estimating that a Kindergarten school could count upon an attendance of at least forty children under the age of nine. The lack of educational facilities in the district certainly is not creditable to the Government of the Colony. Perhaps it is true, as one of our correspondents suggested, that the responsible authorities have hitherto assumed that "all Peak residents are wealthy taipans and can afford to provide private tuition for their children," but we can hardly believe that the Government actually need the assurance that such is not the case. That the authorities recognise to some extent that there is a juvenile population at the Peak which ought to be at school was evidenced by the fact that only last year the Inspector of Schools publicly appealed to parents on the Peak to send their children to the British School at Kowloon! We cannot suppose that Mr. Wolfe, who was then filling that position, had given a moment's previous consideration to the suggestion. Parents at the Peak can hardly be seriously expected to send their young offspring an hour's journey to a school. Apart from considerations of cost in tram and ferry fares and for rickshaws or chairs, the suggestion that young children should be required to make such a journey is too unreasonable to appeal to any parent. A school is needed on the Peak, and it certainly would not severely tax the resources of the Government to provide it. No costly school building is necessary; the accommodation required could be provided at very small expenditure, and it is believed that the running expenses of the school would be met very largely, if not entirely, out of the school fees. In a changing community like ours the provision of educational facilities is essentially a matter for the Government and not for private enterprise. Under Government control the continuity of the school would be assured, and it is desirable in other respects that it should be under the aegis of the Director of Education.

Our correspondent "Children's Friend" emphasised in his letter the fact that to teach the Kindergarten system properly it is essential that a certificated mistress be employed, and anyone who knows how widely the method of teaching in Kindergarten schools differs from the methods which obtain in the ordinary elementary schools will at once recognise the value of that suggestion. For the information

of those whose ideas of the system may be vague, we may explain that the Kindergarten School carries out LOCKE's idea that "all the plays and diversions of children should be directed towards good and useful habits, or else they will introduce evil ones." It is frequently spoken of as the FROEBEL system, for it was FROEBEL who reduced these ideas to a system. Our correspondent spoke of the system as one for developing the faculties through play. It is nowadays admitted to be the most attractive and philosophical form of infant development the world has ever seen. Children are taught not what to think, but how to think. Much care is given to the training of the senses, especially those of sight, sound and touch. Intuition is recognised as the true basis of knowledge, and those who have seen the system properly taught will endorse FROEBEL's dictum that something is done for children which even the ideal mother in the ideal family could not do. Play, the child's chief employment, is so organised for them as to draw out their capacities of feeling and thinking and even of inventing and creating, and it is all done in such a way that young children from the age of three upwards enter into these playful occupations with the keenest delight, and obviously to their lasting benefit. The suggestion that a school of this character should be established at the Peak is, we know, generally endorsed by parents living in that district, and we trust the suggestion which has been put forward will receive the prompt and favourable consideration of the Government.

THE POLICING OF THE NEW TERRITORY.

(Daily Press, August 25th.)

Is Hongkong and its dependencies adequately policed? That is the question of the hour. The tragedy in the New Territory last week has aroused the community to a consideration of the question, and not unnaturally much criticism of the present arrangements and the policy which has created them is heard. When retrenchment is, as it were, so much in the air, and proposals are being discussed with a view to the reduction of Government staffs, including the police force, it is singularly unfortunate that this tragic occurrence should have taken place, inasmuch as it offers a strong argument against further reductions in the police in the New Territory. It is common knowledge that the police force has not kept pace with the growth of the Colony. While the population has increased, the force has not been augmented. This is sought to be explained by the theory that the populace have become more peaceable and law-abiding. Granted. But the opportunities and facilities for bad characters to find their way here from the mainland have not become less, and knowing that so many undesirables are daily adding to the number of petty thieves and determined criminals within our own borders, it certainly seems questionable judgment to sanction a decrease of that body entrusted with the maintenance of good order and government. Retrenchment may be necessary in several departments, economies might very well be effected in more than one, but efficiency should be the chief consideration. Economy which produces inefficiency carries its own condemnation, and, while not wishing to join in an outcry merely because it seems popular, we must confess to a feeling that all is not well with our local constabulary. We do not suggest that its personnel is anything other than it

ought to be. As a matter of fact, we have a great regard for the intelligence, tact, and discrimination of the body as a whole. Our objection is that the force has not the numerical strength to be effective. The policy of drawing men from the outlying districts into the Central may be justified when the number of men at disposal is limited. That is perhaps making the most of the force which is available, but there can be no justification for allowing the force to fall beneath the requirements of the Colony. The large number of robberies and burglaries which take place without any of the property being recovered tells its own tale. It emphasises the need for a larger and better organised detective service. The present intelligence men are capable and zealous, but it is impossible for them to cope with the demands upon their service. The city is, no doubt, as well policed as can be expected, but the same cannot be said of the New Territories with their growing population. True, there is no occasion for maintaining the large force which was necessary when the Territories were taken over, as the bad elements have been taught to some extent to respect law and order and to respect those who stand for their preservation, but recent events, having focussed public attention on the subject, show that there is need for a more effective force—that, in other words, the present force is inadequate. It is not for us to say how many Indian or Chinese police is the equivalent of one European, but there can be little doubt that the European creates a feeling which is lacking in the case of the others. He makes himself respected as the embodiment of the law and, as is well-known, attacks on white officers are exceedingly rare. Therefore, there is only one conclusion—that more European police are needed. Withdrawing them has been followed by outbursts of lawlessness, and the remedy seems obvious. Some well-meaning critics have suggested mounted police, as in South Africa, but unfortunately the suggestion indicates a lack of knowledge of the conditions in the New Territory. There, unlike South Africa with its vast distances and sparse population, there is a countryside with few roads and a large population. Who could ride across paddy fields? When the officer pursuing criminals has to leave the road what is to happen to his horse? Were proper roads constructed there might be the possibility of introducing one or two mounted men, but until then they would be useless—that is, as mounted constabulary. This might be a good time to urge the Government to lose no time in starting the construction of the long contemplated trunk road from Castle Peak through Pingshan, Antau to Sheungshui, and thence linking up to the highway at Taiipo. This would help to develop the Territory, and would prove of especial value in view of the early opening of the railway. Its advantage in policing the district is obvious, and with the border well guarded crime in the New Territory would sink to the small place which it undoubtedly has among its peaceful residents.

CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT IN CHINA.

(Daily Press, August 26th.)

The first step toward constitutional government in China is being taken. Arrangements for the election of representatives to the new provincial governments have been completed, and Kwangtung, with its progressive capital, Canton, has had the honour of showing the way to the remainder of the Empire. The elections in the adjacent province have taken place this week, and

already the names of the successful candidates have been published in the Chinese Press.

Constitutional government for China had long been discussed, but the subject seemed as if it would remain nothing more than an ideal, or a foolish incongruous fancy, according to the point of view, when, to the surprise of the world, the late EMPEROR made a declaration sanctioning the introduction of constitutional government, but stipulating that it should not come into effect for some years, in order to give opportunities for the Chinese to qualify in methods of government by representation. The wisdom of the stipulation will not be questioned, though some difference of opinion may exist as to the extent of the period of probation. It may very well be argued that the best qualification is that which comes from experience, and the occasion for the long delay of ten years is not the necessity nor the expediency which it is claimed to be. However that may be, there is reason to feel glad that such a revolutionary change in China is the outcome not only of peaceful means but the product of the enlightened policy of a ruler whose actions did not always meet with general approval.

It is intended, then, that provincial parliaments or councils shall be established, with a view to giving popular representation in the government of the provinces, and that the experience so acquired shall be useful when the Imperial Parliament is brought into being. The new councils, the elections for which are proceeding all over the Empire, continuing from now onwards for two months, will be entrusted with the administration of laws, and all matters which come within the purview of provincial government. The Viceroy of the province, or the Governor, will preside over the meetings of the Assembly, but though the appointment of officials will still be vested in the Throne, it is not to be inferred that the Council is without power. Its members will have all the influence which comes from popular election, and standing as the representatives of the people they will be enabled to secure the requisite deference for their wishes which is perhaps not apparent on the surface. Supposing, for instance, the conduct of an official is reviewed by the council, who express the opinion that he should be removed. No Viceroy could afford to ignore the finding of the Assembly. He must listen to the voice of the people as made articulate through their representatives, and should he resort to unpopular action the Chinese have methods of dealing with an official who outrages public sentiment in such a fashion.

Taking the Kwangtung Province as an example: it will elect, or, rather, has elected, ninety-six representatives. Twelve of these will be elected by the Council to form an Executive Council or advisory body, thus following to a degree the Western precedent. But what is perhaps of greatest interest is the fact that China, in this connection, has taken a step in advance of many European countries. China has accepted the principle of payment of members. The representatives elected to the Executive Council will receive salaries during their tenure of that office, while the remaining members of the deliberative assembly will receive only those expenses entailed by provincial travel, to be defrayed by the district or prefecture which they represent.

Having regard to the illiteracy of the masses, it need occasion no comment that the basis of election is not manhood suffrage. The professional classes, students, and men possessing property valued at five thousand

dollars are entitled to vote. Until education has become more general in the Empire the provision to exclude the proletariat from participating in the duty of selecting representatives for provincial and imperial parliaments seems perfectly justified. No doubt the present franchise could be advantageously broadened, but a beginning must be made somewhere, and if those who now exercise the franchise for the first time in the history of the empire show that they appreciate the privilege, and the members selected acquit themselves in a worthy manner, there can be little doubt that the scope of the experiment will be enlarged, and the advent of the Imperial Parliament will be hailed with confidence, as likely to establish the better relations between the Throne and the people so greatly to be desired.

PARLIAMENT AND HONGKONG'S LOST OPIUM REVENUE.

(Daily Press, August 27.)

Were reproduced in another column to-day the report of a discussion on the opium question as it affects Hongkong and the Straits Settlements, which took place in the House of Commons on the 27th ult. It is very illuminating in many ways, and we commend it to the attention of our readers generally and the Government in particular. In commenting on it we need say little regarding the gross misrepresentation of Sir FREDERICK LUGARD's action on the question contained in the speech of Mr. BENNETT, whom we take to be the Liberal member for the Woodstock division of Oxfordshire. Such ignorance of the whole question as the speech of the hon. member exhibits absolutely disqualifies him to speak in the House of Commons on the subject. No one—whether anti-opiumist or not—who is familiar with the history of the question, so far as it affects Hongkong, needs the assurance that HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR has done nothing in the matter that is inconsistent with his duty as a servant of the Imperial Government. Because he has explained, as he was in duty bound to do, the financial embarrassment to the Colony which inevitably results from the precipitate resolution of the Home Government, and because he has given the Government in a statesmanlike memorandum the benefit of his own views on the subject as the result of careful study on the spot, he is represented by Mr. BENNETT as thwarting and resisting the efforts of the Imperial Government, and as deserving of "some very sharp treatment." Whatever Sir FREDERICK LUGARD's personal view may be with regard to the closing of the opium dens, his loyalty to the Government admits of no question whatever. It is surprising, therefore, to observe that in his reply the UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES entirely omits to include any vindication of the Governors so wantonly and wrongfully attacked by a ready-made critic who obviously had not taken the trouble to inform himself of the facts.

What chiefly interests us in the speech, however, are these words: "Sir F. LUGARD had said that LORD CREWE had asked the Imperial Government for a sum of money to make good the loss caused by the closing of the opium dens. He (Mr. BENNETT) hoped that LORD CREWE did not make that statement, but if he did he trusted that members on that side [i.e., the Government side of the House] and the Labour Party would strenuously resist the application of the money of the British taxpayer to such a purpose." This is just what we expected would happen. LORD CREWE's promise to

"ask Parliament for a substantial contribution" towards the loss of revenue which the Colony will suffer by carrying out the decree of the Imperial Government we have all along insisted is a rotten reed for this Colony to lean upon. It is not a definite promise of a contribution: but a mere promise to ask Parliament for one. If there is anything in this opium business for which the community blames the Colonial Government it is that it has not obtained from the Imperial Government a clear and definite promise of a satisfactory contribution towards the Colony's loss of revenue. Mr. BENNETT, no doubt, in protesting against a contribution from the imperial exchequer speaks for the whole crowd of fanatical supporters of the Government's anti-opium policy, and we can quite imagine, and have indeed already predicted that the appeal to resist "the application of the money of the British taxpayer" to the relief of the Colony of Hongkong will not be made in vain to the Labour Party, or to other sections in the House. Let us hope that the Cabinet Ministers, at least, clearly understand that failure to provide a large part of the direct loss of revenue which the Colony will sustain is a matter of more than local concern. Apart from this loss, as the community is well aware, there will be a very heavy deficit in the Budget, which has to be met by increased taxation. If the Colony is also compelled by the action of a misguided majority in Parliament to bear the full loss involved in carrying out the anti-opium policy to which the Home Government, in complete ignorance of local circumstances, hastily committed itself, it means taxation to an extent which will be fatal to the continued prosperity of the Colony, and the matter, therefore, becomes at once a question of not merely local but imperial concern. We suggest that the Colonial Government should take note of the appeal made by Mr. BENNETT in the House of Commons, and we hope it may be made an excuse for a dispatch to the Secretary of State for the Colonies setting forth in clear and convincing terms the disastrous consequences to the Colony of any failure on the part of the Imperial Government to bear a substantial part of the loss which this Colony is made to suffer.

THE FOREIGNER IN CHINA.

(Daily Press, August 28th)

A curious yet instructive instance of the opposing influences at work in China at the present time is afforded in two notices from the new Board of Posts and Communications, which appear side by side in the "Shanghai Times" of August 18th. The Editor of the "Shanghai Times" is well-known as possessing the confidence of the Chinese Government, which he contrives to preserve without losing his independence, so that his views and reports on Chinese affairs are always founded on first-hand information. These notices are suggestively opposite in tenor, one being as eminently retrogressive in its tone, as is the other suggestive of sound financial economy—yet both are indicative of the enormous amount of leeway China will have to surmount before she can consider herself to have safely entered the portals of progress. Not the least instructive things about the reports, both issuing from the same Boards, is that the President of the Boards, who is to be presumed responsible for both, is evidently entirely unconscious that there is the slightest inconsistency between the two.

In commenting on the construction and management of the railways in China, at least those hitherto constructed, we have had to remark that, without exception, their most conspicuous feature is the persistence with which the possible development of goods traffic has been ignored, or perhaps studiously avoided. For the first time the Board of Posts and Communications, in an official notification to the China Merchants Steam Navigation Co., has ventured to touch on the hitherto tabooed topic. On several occasions we have pointed out that although the Northern Railways in Chili actually run alongside their own wharf at Tongku in full railway communication with Tientsin, not a ton of cargo has ever been sent by train up to the port. More recently we pointed out that although the lately opened Kiangsu Railway, intended specially to connect the important trading cities of Shanghai, Hangchow, and Ningpo, not to speak of Shaoshing, but a few miles off the direct track, comes into the southern suburbs of Shanghai, within half a mile of the busy Namteo line of wharves, no attempt had been made to connect the railway with the wharfage, though the space was as yet practically unoccupied, though being rapidly covered with buildings. These Namteo wharves communicate directly with the great foreign wharves of Shanghai, the water frontage of the whole being over nine miles in a direct line, all capable of being linked up with the present railway at no greater expense than the laying of the rails, there being at present no foreshore rights to be bought up.

This Kiangsu line, contributed by the Chinese themselves, apparently as a piece of bravado, though a vast deal of capital has been wasted or misappropriated in the making (its returned cost amounting to over £7,000 sterling per mile), is a really practical piece of work, though to complete it would need half as much more. It has recently been extended to Hangchow. Curiously enough, with their usual forgetfulness of terminals and connections, the extension does not join the first part opened, so that a journey of some distance has to be undertaken between the two terminals by chair or by water. The same forgetfulness is shown with regard to the Shanghai terminus, where, although the buildings are substantial and exhibit skill in planning, the whole is dropped down anyhow in a swamp; and no practical provision made for approach or departure, as if it were, in the opinion of the railway director, a matter of not the slightest interest to the passenger how he was to catch or leave his train. Chinese railways in native view are things that begin nowhere, and end equally nowhere; and this view is by no means accidental, but pervades the Empire from north to south. Now, apparently, a glimmering of this condition of the case has fallen on the Board of Posts and Communications, and the result is the issue of a Notice, curiously not to the Railways, with whom it might perchance be useful, but to the China Merchants Steam Navigation Co. The directors of that company have doubtless often sighed over the fact that they were excluded from all benefits which might arise to them from the opening of railways, and are very needlessly told that in order to increase its business they should enter into contracts with the railway companies at Tientsin, Newchwang, and Hankow, and should arrange to issue through tickets and bills of lading. We have not the slightest doubt that the directors of the China Merchants Co. have often sighed for the day when such a thing would be possible. There are the ships,

and there are the railways, but between the two there is a great gulf fixed, and goods and passengers have to get from one to the other by such means as were available in China seventy years ago. The China Merchants Co. are certainly in no way responsible for the difficulty. If there be any fault between the two, it is certainly on the part of the railways. Why do they not run their trucks on to the wharves? The steamers will be only too glad to go alongside and co-operate.

We begin to see from the other Notice some part of the reason, though by no means the whole. The President of the Board has been making his plaint that it pains him to think that China's means of communication, which, as he truly states, are the very life of a country, are almost all in the hands of foreigners. But why should they be in the hands of foreigners? The fault is certainly not that of the foreigners, but lies in the Reactionary Party in China herself. The impassable barrier that blocks the half mile between the Kacch'ang terminus of the Kiangsu Railway and the Namteo Wharves at Shanghai, certainly was never raised by the foreigner. Good communications, as the President of the Board rightly says, are the very life-blood of a country, and the President will acknowledge that to the foreigner all these—nay, the Board of Communications and its President themselves are due. In the interest of all, of China and the Chinese, as well as of himself, the foreigner has for the last fifty years been pressing these truths on the Chinese. He has never denied that they were in his own interest, nor asked credit for a quixotic philanthropy he did not possess. But he stated in as many words, *that in thus benefiting himself he aided China tenfold*; it was neither his desire nor his interest to claim any special rights for himself; the general improvement of his trade was ample reward.

That the unremitting efforts of the foreigner to induce China to reform herself has resulted in the enormous advance of China as a nation, even she cannot deny nor explain away. Of all the many abuses in China against none has the foreigner set his face so hard as *likin*, which he has ever pointed out, by striking at the root of her communications, has all the while been draining her of her life-blood. It is some slight consolation that this truth has—as yet, it is true in but uncertain accents,—commenced to impress itself on the Government itself. It is *likin* that is at the root of all these obstructions which prevent China from deriving the full benefit, and in some cases, as in the case of the Nanking Railway, of deriving any benefit from her steamers and her railways. Unfortunately, the school of statesmen, who see in the ruin of their neighbours their own prosperity, has ever been in the ascendant in China. The President of the Board of Posts and Communications likes to think that if he only could get rid of the foreigner his Posts and Railways would flourish as they never had flourished before: this is trying to drive the mill quicker by diverting the mill race, or building his railways and forgetting his termini. Such, it is true, was the practice of China in the days of KIA K'ING or HIEN FENG; and such it would be again were the President to restore the position, and get rid of the foreigner. He reasons correctly that the Communications are the circulating blood that drives the machinery of State, yet he cannot follow up his own argument, that the absence of the corpuscles that animate the circulation would render useless the circulation, and bring back again the ages of anaemia, from which China,

thanks to the presence of the foreigner, has hardly as yet escaped.

The foreigner is needed till the *likin* strangulation be abolished; without him China can never accomplish the task. When *likin* has been abolished, and the circulation restored to a healthy condition, China will of her own experience recognise how necessary in commerce are the two elements, the *buyer* as well as the *seller*: it is the forgetfulness of this fact, and the attempt to find a stream of commercial profit carrying its benefits all in the one direction, that has been the cause of the stagnation of the life-blood. If China could possibly attract to her shores all the wealth of the world, and were to close the ways of exit, she would be none the richer for the accumulation. This is one of the fundamental truths of political economy. China sees but half the truth; the way *Out* and the way *In* are both equally essential for the circulation. The foreigner is as necessary as the Chinaman, each in his way, to whole-some circulation.

RANDOM REFLECTIONS.

August is maintaining its reputation for immunity from typhoons. Usually they go north at this time of the year, but they get back as a rule in September. They are not welcome visitors at any time.

It transpired during the course of a trial at the Supreme Court this week that when a certain man received an injury, one of his companions applied a piece of tobacco to the part afflicted. Probably this is a cure imported from home, where the horny-handed son of toil frequently uses tobacco leaf to heal and to protect an injury, especially a finger. It is somewhat heroic, but its results seem to give satisfaction. At any rate it is less severe than the methods of the Chinese who apply pepper to a cut. Ugh!

Last week I suggested a preference for the Scotch bath. This week I find myself regarding with some favour the Scotch jury system. The thought arose when I read the report of the murder trial on Thursday, with the disagreement of the jury and the discharge of the prisoner. In this case the seven men were unable to arrive at a unanimous finding, and the Court, being unable to accept a majority verdict, could only discharge the jury. Had the Chief Justice not suggested to the Attorney-General that the case against the prisoner was rather weak it would have meant a re-trial. It is remarkable that the advantage of the Scotch jury system with its majority verdict should not have impressed our law-makers ere this, but probably when common-sense leavens law this desirable change may be effected.

It seems remarkable that only one unofficial member of the licensing body should have attended the meeting held on Friday to consider the application of Mr. Bertelone for an adjunct licence for premises in York Buildings. The matter was of no little public importance, and the discussion of the application might very well have taken place in open court so that the reasons for and against the proposition would become generally known. That only one J. P. should attend such an important meeting seems to strengthen the hands of the Government in their legislative proposals for the transfer of the licensing authority to the Captain Superintendent of Police. What excuse have the unofficial J. P's to make?

Hongkong residents were interested to learn of the new appointment offered to our old Governor, Sir Matthew Nathan. At first sight it looks as if Sir Nathan was enjoying a series of Irish rises, for he left here to take up a more important office in Natal, to which less salary attached than the Governorship of Hongkong, and now he becomes Secretary of the General Post Office, where his remuneration will be smaller than in Natal. But perhaps there is

consolation in the fact that he goes from a colonial appointment to one of great Imperial importance, where his experience will prove of considerable value. It may be that he has been brought back to London to undergo a course of training with a view to future advancement, or it may be that he returns to England in order to be near his mother who is in failing health. At any rate we feel sure that the abilities and experience of our ex-Governor will not be overlooked.

In the bathing season, it is perhaps not inappropriate to refer to the need for looking after the limited bathing areas now possessed by the Colony. The nice beach which Kowloon residents once enjoyed has been lost as the result of railway operations, and Stonecutters' and Laichikok are the only places of easy access which remain. The beach at West Point, just beyond the tramway terminus, might be made a good bathing area—a place appreciated by those not able to afford launch transportation—if the rocks and stones were removed, and though this is not the time nor place to advocate additional expenditure the Government might be well advised to spend a hundred dollars or so in this direction. The result would be to bring sea bathing within the reach of a greater number of residents. On the eastern side near Belle Vue Hotel, a very little outlay would give additional bathing facilities there. The matter, though comparatively small, is one which should not be overlooked by the Government.

Can you imagine a sane man entering into matrimony and agreeing to the elimination of the word "obey" from the marriage service? This was the feature of a recent wedding at a Wesleyan chapel at Wandsworth, and as a mere man, jealous of all masculine privileges, I may be pardoned for expressing the hope that this innovation will not be universally adopted. It is only a young man in the ecstasy of pre-nuptial contemplation of prospective joys who would consent to the omission of such an important word from the service. A man with an experience of matrimony would know better.

I heard a good story related the other day of one of our missionary friends. His wife died last year and he was inconsolable. However, he decided to wed again, and when a friend asked who was to officiate, a wag replied, "Dr. So and So is in the habit of marrying him." Needless to say, the story is American.

The day of the Directoire is done. Ladies need no longer seek to attain that degree of attenuation known as the Directoire figure. They may now deal with themselves generously. They must henceforth assume ample proportions, and change of figure means change of diet, or change of diet means change of figure. You may have it whichever way you like. "Women," I read, "who are striving after a more generous outline are drinking buttermilk and honey at breakfast, lunch and dinner. Flaked nuts in the form of prepared sweetmeats or as an ingredient of various cakes is another agency which is being tried by many women." Heavens, what a breakfast! Buttermilk and honey! But the most interesting part is that the insect-like lady, the creature almost bisected in the middle, has contracted herself for only a temporary glory. The small waist is no longer the *ne plus ultra* of feminine grace. What is wanted is substantial wastes—pardon, waists—and if ladies find nature somewhat diffident, they are permitted to pad their corsets until they have produced a circumference of twenty-four inches. He is a greedy man who wouldn't be satisfied with twenty-four inches. To say two feet would be to court misunderstanding.

A fortnight ago I referred to the objections from a sanitary point of view of drinking from glasses, and pointed to the advantage of using vessels with handles, thereby avoiding the contact of the hands on the rim of the glass where the drinker naturally put his lips. Since then a correspondent has informed me of a Dutch invention by which ice glasses are used. The "glass" is frozen in a mould and retains its form for an hour before it begins to melt. When the drink is consumed the "glasses" are thrown away. As the cost is a trifle more than the same

weight of ordinary ice, the experiment need not be tabooed on account of the expense. It might be urged that these glasses would be an incentive to rapid drinking, but such a result is not likely to follow in Hongkong, where we are always being reminded of what the Governor of South Carolina remarked to the Governor of North Carolina.

RODERICK RANDOM.

HONGKONG.

Only one case of plague was reported in the Colony last week.

The name of Mr. A. E. Wright has been added to the list of the Colony's authorised architects.

Mr. William C. Jack, M.I.N.A., of Hongkong, has been elected a Fellow of the Royal Colonial Institute.

Part of the cargo of the junk *Sun Fook Hop* which was pirated last month on her way to Taiping has been traced.

Three Chinese were at the Magistracy on Aug. 26 fined \$25 each for having stowed away on the steamer *Mausang* from Sandakan.

At the Magistracy on Aug. 23 four Chinese were fined \$100 each for making fast their sampans to the s.s. *Ithaka* while she was under weigh in the harbour.

While a Queen's Road merchant was absent at Canton the four fokis whom he had left in charge took advantage of the occasion to loot the shop, taking away articles to the value of \$789. They have not been traced yet.

At the Magistracy on Aug. 20 Mr. J. R. Wood fined the comprador of a steamer running from Kongmoon to Hongkong \$25 for infringing the exclusive rights of the Postmaster-General by bringing unstamped letters into the Colony.

Our London correspondent writes:—A marriage is to take place in September between Harry Hancock, youngest son of Mr. Alfred Hancock, late of Hongkong, and Ethel Seymour the eldest daughter of Mr. William Wright late of Clifton, near Bristol.

In view of the impending departure of Dr. G. M. Harston on a holiday, we understand that the leading Chinese residents intend to make a presentation to him in recognition of the services he has voluntarily rendered in the treatment of Chinese suffering from eye diseases.

An interesting case came before Mr. Wood at the Magistracy on Aug. 26 when a junk man was charged with being in possession of 100 tons of sand. Apparently the sand ought to have been dumped at North Point reclamation, but instead of doing so he tried to sell it. The case was remanded.

On the 27th inst. at the Magistracy Inspector Gourlay proceeded against a shopkeeper for having in his shop 288 cases of spirits of wine and 40 cases of arrack without a licence from the Government. Mr. Goldring, who appeared for the defendant asked, for a remand, which was granted.

H. B. M.'s Consul at Batavia has informed the Government by telegram that quarantine against Hongkong in Netherlands India has been removed. We have also received an intimation from Mr. de Reus, the Consul-General for the Netherlands at Hongkong, to the same effect.

The Full Court on Aug. 23 reversed the decision given by the Chief Justice in December last in the action brought by Messrs. S. J. David and Company against their Compradore for the recovery of \$648,816, damages due under agreement. The decision of the Full Court was in favour of the firm, with costs in the Court below and on the appeal.

A correspondent writes to us a letter in which he appeals to the Government, in the interests of public decency and morality, to take some effective action to suppress the intolerable nuisances which respectable residents in the neighbourhood of Wyndham Street have so long had to endure. Attention has been called again and again to the matter, but so far the complaints appear to have been absolutely disregarded. Our correspondent hopes that this further appeal will receive some attention, and he suggests as a remedy the removal of brothels from the central districts of the city.

A Chinese contractor residing at Ship Street reports to the police that his wife has absconded, taking with her jewellery belonging to him valued at \$600.

Mr. Denman Fuller, organist of St. John's Cathedral, went to Manila last week to formally open a new and beautiful organ at the Cathedral of St. Mary and St. John by two recitals. Mr. Fuller is the guest of Bishop Brent.

Two men who took the big risk of uttering a ten cent. and a five cent piece which were spurious at a cigarette stall were at the Magistracy on Aug. 27 sentenced to four months' imprisonment each and six hour in the stocks.

A reward of \$500 is offered by the police for information which may lead to the apprehension of the person or persons who were concerned in the murder of the two Indian police at the Lam Tsun Gap, Au Tau, New Territory, on the morning of the 20th August.

The total amount of fees received by the Government from the Civil Hospital and its annexes (excluding Victoria Hospital), was \$26,970 last year as compared with \$33,771 in 1907. The fees at the Victoria Hospital amounted to \$5,119 as compared with \$5,812 in 1907.

The four public bath houses in Hongkong appear to be largely used by the Chinese. During last year the numbers using them totalled 349,567. Two of these bath houses are for men only, one for women only and the fourth for men and women.

His Majesty the King has not been advised to exercise his power of disallowance with respect to Ordinance No. 4 of 1909, entitled—An Ordinance to amend the Wireless Telegraphy Ordinance, 1903; and Ordinance No. 11 of 1909, entitled—An Ordinance to amend the Public Health and Buildings Ordinances, 1903-1908.

A return of the number of death sentences and executions in British Crown Colonies and Protectorates in 1908 has recently been laid before Parliament. Hongkong figures in the list with only one death sentence and no executions. In the Straits Settlements the death sentence was passed on seven persons, but there were no executions during the year.

Heavy fines were on Aug. 27 imposed on the keepers of a gambling school at Yaumati. Twenty-two had been arrested, and the four keepers were fined \$300 each, and the remainder \$15 each. The amount captured by the police when they made the arrest was \$96, which was forfeited. After the hearing of the case Mr. Goldring appeared and asked for a re-hearing of the case against the four keepers. This was granted.

Two Chinese were brought before Mr. Wood at the Magistracy on Aug. 24 on a charge of kidnapping two boys out of the Colony. They took the boys into Chinese territory, but the fare collector on the steamer recognised one of the boys, whom he asked what he was doing there. The boy replied that he was taken by force from his home, whereupon the collector detained the two men and sent them back to Hongkong. Evidence was called and the case remanded.

A robbery with violence is reported to have taken place on the Taipo Road on Friday evening last, the victim being a cook, who states that he was met by three men who seized him. He asked what they wanted and they replied that they were going to search him. He said that he had only one dollar, which he handed over to them, after which they tied his hands behind him and fastened him to a tree, where he remained for two hours before he was released by a man who passed.

Six weeks hard labour and six hours in the stocks was the punishment meted out to a Chinese at the Magistracy on Aug. 25 for entering a shop at Yaumati and stealing a pair of boots. It appears that owing to the heat the door was left open. Prisoner took advantage to crawl into the shop and went under the bed of one of the fokis, who, thinking it was a companion on joking intent, paid no attention until he saw a hand reach out and take his boots from the side of the bed. Then the discovery was made that there was a thief in the house. The defendant explained his conduct by saying that he wished to go to Canton and he took the boots in the hope of raising the price of his fare.

A stabbing affray took place at Wellington Barracks on Saturday. Two Chinese quarrelled, and one drawing a knife stabbed his companion in the back. The latter was badly wounded and had to be taken to the hospital. When the assailant appeared before Mr. Wood at the Magistracy yesterday he told him that he did not intend to seriously wound the other man, who aggravated him by striking him first. The case was remanded.

Five men were charged at the Magistracy on Aug. 25 with being concerned in the piracy of a junk trading between Hongkong and Taiping on the 18th July. Nothing was heard of the boat or crew for several days, when one man informed the Hongkong police that the junk had been attacked and boarded at Nam Wan Bay, off Cheung Chau Island, and that the pirates had gone off with the cargo, valued at \$18,000 and tackle worth \$1,400. The junk was beached and the crew dispersed. The case was remanded.

Messrs. J. Wilbur Chapman and Charles M. Alexander, the eminent evangelists, are due here on Monday by the *Kumano Maru* from Australia. It was expected that climatic conditions would make it inadvisable for them to conduct meetings in Hongkong on their way through to Shanghai, but we are informed that arrangements are being made for meetings to be held in the Theatre on Tuesday and Wednesday next. The party numbers about ten, and includes, in addition to Messrs. Chapman and Alexander, a well-known soloist and accompanist.

Mr. J. R. Wood presided over a meeting of Justices of the Peace held at the Magistracy on Aug. 20th, and there were also present Messrs. F. J. Badeley, P. H. Holyoak and C. D. Melbourne. The business was to consider an application from G. Bertolone for permission to remove the business now carried on by him under an adjunct licence at 37, Queen's Road Central to the unnumbered premises in York Buildings formerly occupied by Messrs. Cottam and Company. The Justices considered the application *in camera*, and when the Court re-opened the chairman announced that it had been refused.

Mr. S. D. Setna, a well-known Parsee merchant of Hongkong, who has spent more than twenty years in the Colony, left by the P. & O. steamer *Caledonia* for India. For several years he was manager of the Hongkong house of Cawajee Pallanjee & Co., of which firm his late father was a partner. Latterly Mr. Setna had managed the local branch of the firm of Phirozsha B Petit & Co., which has recently been closed owing to the long continued depression in the yarn and opium markets in China. Mr. Setna's departure is regretted alike by the Parsee community and by all who have had business relations with him and esteemed him as a man of the strictest integrity and honour.

THE REVENUE PROBLEM.

RESOLUTION BY MEMBERS OF COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Unofficial Members of the Legislative Council was held on the afternoon of Wednesday, the 18th, at which the following resolutions were passed unanimously:—

- (1) That a duty be imposed on all Foreign and Chinese alcoholic liquors imported and consumed in this Colony. Liquors supplied to ships, in unbroken cases for consumption on board, and liquors re-exported, to be exempt from duty.
- (2) That Arrack and spirits of wine be treated as alcoholic liquors.
- (3) That all licensing fees be based on a valuation of the annual turn-over of the business of the licensee.
- (4) That in the event of the preceding resolution being adopted the issuing of adjunct licences be discontinued.
- (5) That all places where liquors are sold by retail for consumption on the premises be required to take out licences.
- (6) That as to the method of collecting the import duties a spirit farm is undesirable.

These resolutions were communicated to His Excellency the Governor the following day

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council was held on the 27th inst. in the Council Chamber.

The following were present:—

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR, SIR FREDERICK JOHN DEALTRY LUGARD, K.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O.

Hon. COLONEL DARLING, R.E. (Acting G.O.C.).

Hon. Mr. A. M. THOMSON (Acting Colonial Secretary).

Sir HENRY BERKELEY, K.C. (Acting Attorney-General).

Hon. Mr. C. M. I. MESSER (Colonial Treasurer).

Hon. Mr. P. N. H. JONES (Acting Director of Public Works).

Hon. Mr. A. W. BREWIN (Registrar-General).

Hon. Mr. F. J. BADELEY (Capt. Superintendent of Police).

Hon. Dr. HO KAI, M.B., C.M.G.

Hon. Mr. E. OSBORNE.

Hon. Mr. W. J. GRESSON.

Hon. Mr. MURRAY STEWART.

Hon. Mr. WEI YUK, C.M.G.

Mr. C. CLEMENTI (Clerk of Councils).

MINUTES.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

FINANCIAL MINUTES.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY, by command of His Excellency the Governor, laid on the table Financial Minutes Nos. 37 and 38, and moved that they be referred to the Finance Committee.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

FINANCIAL.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY, by command of His Excellency the Governor, laid on the table the report of the Finance Committee (No. 12) and moved its adoption.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

PAPER.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY, by command of His Excellency the Governor, laid on the table the report of the Sanitary and Medical department.

LIQUOR LICENCE DISCUSSION POSTPONED.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY moved the postponement of the resolution under section 6 of the Liquor Licences Extension Ordinance, 1908.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

LAW RELATING TO OPIUM.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the first reading of a Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend and consolidate the laws relating to opium and its compounds.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded.

HIS EXCELLENCY—Gentlemen, the Bill which my hon. and learned friend has moved should be read a first time is one which has been rendered necessary because of certain defects in the existing Ordinances, especially in the matter of the treatment of morphia—in fact, the Ordinances as they stand are so confusing that it is doubtful if on some particular points they are not absolutely contradictory. It has been necessary, therefore, to introduce certain small amendments in order to clarify the existing law. It was thought better while we were doing this to recast the whole of the laws in one Consolidated ordinance in order that those who tender for the farm shall know exactly what the existing law is. I may say that in the consolidated Ordinance no new principle of any considerable importance is introduced. The amendments which have been made will be pointed out when we discuss the Bill clause by clause in committee. I may add that unless we take this opportunity of consolidating the Ordinance it will be practically impossible to do so for the next three years until the currency of the new farm determines, because any alteration, however small, when tenders are accepted, would vitiate the terms of the contract. By introducing this Ordinance we render it necessary to postpone the date on which the tenders should be sent in, and we propose to postpone the date until 30th September next. You will therefore see, gentlemen, that the matter is very urgent. We wish to give the tenderers as long notice as possible in

order that they may study any small alterations in the law which may affect them. I shall, therefore, ask the Council at our next meeting to consider the bill not only in committee, but also to pass its third reading, solely with a view to getting it out as soon as possible in order not to delay the contracts. Since the Bill will involve no new principle I trust it may be treated as a non-contentious Bill. The law as it exists, with such innovations as recently introduced, has been the subject of various protests. I trust it will not be found necessary by unofficial members to renew these protests. Finally, I may point out to you that the Bill which is now on the table is a further revise from the one circulated yesterday. There are a few minor alterations which it has been found necessary to make. The bill, therefore, now laid on the table is a final proof.

The motion was agreed to.

KOWLOON HARBOUR OF REFUGE.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved (the first reading of a Bill entitled an Ordinance to authorize the Construction and Maintenance of a Harbour of Refuge upon and over certain portions of the Sea Bed and Foreshore situated upon the Harbour frontage at Taikoktsui, Mongkoktsui, and Yaumati, Kowloon, in this Colony.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

MALICIOUS DAMAGE AMENDMENT ORDINANCE.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the second reading of the Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend the Malicious Damage Ordinance, 1865. In doing so he said—This bill safeguards injuries to railways and tramways, and imposes penalties upon persons who commit acts of malicious damage in regard thereto. The principal Ordinance, that is to say, the Ordinance which deals with malicious damages to property—the Ordinance of 1865 did not contain any provision such as is in the present Bill against persons who commit acts of malicious damage on railways or tramways. The reason of that, of course, is obvious to the Council. We had not arrived at the progressive stage we have now reached of having tramways and a railway nearing completion. Equally proper is it that the insertion of clauses providing safeguards that are necessary should now be made. The second part of the Bill relates to malicious damages to trees on Crown lands, and provides for the punishment of persons who cause malicious damage to such property. There always has been such a provision, but the mode of procedure for imposing, and more especially for collecting, a penalty has not been a good one. This is particularly the case with regard to the New Territories, where the villages are not assessed in the same way as assessments are made on the Hongkong side. To collect a fine at present you have to have a special assessment made of property in the New Territories, which is more trouble than it is worth. We propose to give the Governor power to impose a fine payable by the inhabitants, and which is leviable upon the registered property and collected in the same way as rent is collected.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded the motion, and Council went into committee on the Bill.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE, speaking on clause 3, asked—Does that mean that if a boy puts a stone on the tramway line he can be imprisoned for life?

HIS EXCELLENCY—If he does it with the object of upsetting a tram. If it is not done with intent he is not liable.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE—A child putting a stone on the tram line does no harm to the tramway?

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—There must be intent.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE—But the clause says such person may be imprisoned for life.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—First of all, intent must be established. It is exactly the same provision as is in force in England.

Hon. Dr. HO KAI—I think the first part of the clause applies to train-wreckers. The rest deals with the casual offender, whose term of imprisonment is not to exceed two years.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE—It is a very different thing to put a sleeper on a line where an express train is running than to put stones on a tram line.

HIS EXCELLENCY—Do I understand your objection is that this clause ought only to be applicable to a railway, and not to a tramway?

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE—My objection is to this excessive punishment of an ignorant coolie who puts a stone on a tram line.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—No coolie, how ever ignorant, can put a stone on a tram line without intent.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE—There is no danger to life by putting a stone on a tram line.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—There might be.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE—The section is curiously worded. The lowest penalty is two years.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—The penalty does not exceed that. It may be a day or an hour. That is the maximum.

Hon. Mr. STEWART—The two clauses refer to different grades of maliciousness. This is not clear from the wording.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—It is quite clear.

Hon. Mr. STEWART—Insert "or in the case of minor offences."

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—I prefer to leave it as it is. It is copied exactly from the English statutes.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE—It is distinctly worded here that if a coolie puts a stone on the tram line he is liable, at the discretion of the Court, to be imprisoned for life, or for a term of not less than two years.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—One portion of the offence is the unlawful and malicious obstruction of a railway with intent. You have got to prove all that to the satisfaction of a jury, or a man cannot be convicted. When that is proved the Court deals with the case as circumstances require, and makes the punishment fit the crime. I don't think we need trouble ourselves about this when it has been in force in England for 34 years.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE—Railways have been in England for a long time, but in the New Territory people have not learned how to behave towards them. I want it to be made clear that a coolie who puts a small stone on a tram line cannot to be imprisoned for three years.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—The matter can be left to the magistrate to give a fitting punishment.

Hon. Dr. HO KAI objected to clause 5, holding it unfair to make the owners of land liable to a fine for injuries to trees by the inhabitants of a village. Owners may reside miles away from the same and should not be held responsible. He could understand making the village elders or head men responsible.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE, on the last clause of the Bill, objected to the principle of making a landlord liable for damage done by a tenant. It was the same principle which had made the sanitary laws in the Colony so objectionable.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said he could see no alternative.

The Bill was left in Committee on the understanding that an amendment would be drafted by the Senior Unofficial member and submitted to the Attorney-General.

RATING ORDINANCE AMENDMENT.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the second reading of the Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend the Rating Ordinance, 1907.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

Council then resolved itself into Committee. On the second clause exempting any village or area in the New Territory from exemption,

Hon. Mr. GRESSON said—Why is there no reason stated?

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—There is in the memorandum.

Hon. Mr. STEWART—It does not say why.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—The reason is that in the New Territory there are places where the cost of assessment would exceed the amount collected for the rates.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE—That would attract people to the New Territories.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—It is only giving the power to the Council by resolution if good cause be shown to make certain exemptions. Most of the houses in the New Territory are of less than rateable value.

The clause was passed.

Council resumed, and it was reported that the Bill passed through committee.

BILLS POSTPONED.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL asked leave to postpone the second reading of the Tramway Ordinance and the Liquor Licences Ordinance. Agreed to.

DOG ORDINANCE.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the second reading of the Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend the Dogs Ordinance, 1893. In doing so he said—The memorandum attached to the Bill indicates its object. It is really to provide a home for wandered or lost dogs where they may be kept and maintained. The home will be subject to the supervision of the police, and the dogs kept in such home shall not be liable to the dog tax. The bill provides that the fee for dog licences shall be three dollars instead of a dollar and a half. It is not a new proposal, being taken from the Ordinance of 1893. We imported it into this ordinance.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

Council then went into Committee to consider the Bill clause by clause.

With reference to the fee to be charged for a dog licence,

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE asked—Why is it increased?

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—It is not increased.

Hon. Mr. STEWART—Can we increase it now?

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—Yes, if you wish.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE—chance for revenue.

Hon. Mr. BADELEY—It would be very small.

Hon. Mr. STEWART—I think the privilege of keeping a dog is one that should be paid for. I move that the fee be five dollars instead of three.

Hon. Mr. WEI YUK—Three dollars is enough. As a matter of fact it is too much for a watch dog.

Hon. Mr. BADELEY—What about three dollars for the first dog and five dollars for the second?

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE—Make it more.

Hon. Mr. STEWART—That's a good suggestion.

His EXCELLENCY—It is rather hard to describe for what purposes a dog is being kept.

Hon. Mr. STEWART—We might make it one dog three dollars, two dogs nine dollars, doubling the fee for each additional dog.

His EXCELLENCY—There are certain villages in the New Territory where dogs are kept for food.

Hon. Mr. STEWART—I withdraw my amendment.

His EXCELLENCY—I might explain the origin of this bill. The Rev. Mr. Hickling called upon me some time ago and asked permission to start a dogs' home in order to prevent cruelty to dogs. I don't suppose any rival home is likely to be started.

The clause was passed.

On Council resuming, it was reported that the Bill had passed through Committee.

CEMETERY ORDINANCE.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the second reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to set apart certain Crown land to be used as a burial ground for persons professing the Christian religion, other than members of the Roman Catholic Church. In doing so he said—The object of this Bill is to set apart a portion of land for a cemetery for the burial of persons professing the Christian religion other than those of the Church of Rome, which body had been in possession for years of a portion of the English cemetery. The other part of the cemetery has been open for the burial of persons of the Christian religion, but there has been no positive proscription against the interment therein of any person whatever professed during his lifetime, and it has been represented to the Government that it would be well if a portion of this land should now be formally set apart by law for the interment of persons professing the Christian religion other than Roman Catholics. The Bill now before you is designed to give effect to that object. I may add that already other bodies than Christians have had portions of land set apart for the burial of their dead. There is the Mohammedan Cemetery, the Jewish Cemetery, the Parsee Cemetery, and so on. I move that the Bill be now read a second time.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded.

His EXCELLENCY—With reference to what the hon. and learned member said in explanation of the memorandum, I would say that the only reason for excluding Roman Catholics is that they have a cemetery of their own.

Hon. Dr. Ho KAI—Is it a new piece of land? The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—No. It is the old Colonial Cemetery.

The motion was agreed to.

Council then went into Committee.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said that he proposed to leave the Bill in Committee for the present owing to the circumstance that difficulties had arisen in connection with another portion of land which it was intended to set aside for the burial of Buddhists. A difficulty had arisen as to the means of access, and in consequence the plan had not been completed.

Hon. Mr. STEWART said His Excellency had been good enough to tell the Council the origin of the dogs' home. Might they have some hint as to the need for this Ordinance?

His EXCELLENCY—I think everybody is aware of the fact that there has been a good deal of discussion at the Sanitary Board and elsewhere on the subject of Chinese interment in the Colonial Cemetery. The Colonial Cemetery, so far as one can ascertain, has always been open to any person irrespective of race or creed. It has been desired that there should be a certain portion set aside for Christian interment. The Bishop presented to me what I might call a request from the Wesleyans, Baptists, and representatives of the Church of England that a portion should be opened for Christian burial.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE—Protestants?

His EXCELLENCY—Any persons.

Hon. Mr. STEWART—It excludes Roman Catholics. They have now I take it a right to be interred there.

His EXCELLENCY—They have a cemetery of their own.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE—Does it mean the different sects of the Protestant religion?

His EXCELLENCY—Not that I am aware of. The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—It means persons professing the Christian religion. It would include Presbyterians.

Hon. Mr. STEWART—What about members of the Greek Church, and of the Armenian Church? Would it include Nestorian Christians?

The COLONIAL SECRETARY said that members of the Greek Church and of the Armenian Church could not be described as Protestant.

Hon. Mr. STEWART—That's my point.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL stated that it was only the Protestants who would be affected by the Bill.

Hon. Mr. STEWART—But the preamble of the bill includes members of the Armenian Church.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—Yes.

His EXCELLENCY—I think it is a matter to be left to the Ecclesiastical authorities. They desire that this portion should be dedicated, and they are willing to agree that persons of the Christian religion shall be buried in it with the exception of Roman Catholics who have their own cemetery.

Hon. Mr. STEWART—If it is as wide as that the title of the Bill conflicts with the memorandum.

His EXCELLENCY—I propose to leave the Bill in committee for the reason that the plan is not yet ready. I shall be very glad to show the hon. member the letter which was presented to me by the Bishop in the name of the other denominations and signed by the leading churchmen of the sects.

Council then resumed.

MINISTERIAL DUTIES.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the second reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to relieve the Governor-in-Council of certain ministerial duties. In doing so he said—The object of this ordinance is to invest in the Governor certain ministerial duties which at present require the assembling of the Executive Council. The various duties are in connection with several ordinances set out in the schedule. All are absolutely what are called ministerial duties and it is purely for the convenience of the Government that the alteration suggested should be made.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded and the motion was agreed to.

Council then went into committee on the Bill.

His EXCELLENCY explained that this Bill dealt with matters which it was not considered necessary should be brought before the Executive Council as they were purely formal. Where it was laid down that certain legislation should be approved by the Governor-in-Council it was proposed to substitute the Governor.

Hon. Mr. GRESSON—On looking through the Bill the first thing that attracts my attention is the Merchant Shipping Ordinance of 1899. We have got no means of going through that just now.

His EXCELLENCY—We are not discussing the Shipping Ordinance just now.

Hon. Mr. GRESSON—We are passing things in the dark. The Ordinance is not before us so that we do not know what powers we are giving up. It seems to me very much like putting your name to a document you do not understand to agree to a schedule of this sort.

His EXCELLENCY—We are not yet discussing the schedule. When it comes to discussing it Council can cross out every clause if it desires.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE—Couldn't a short summary be prepared to show what has been given up?

Hon. Mr. STEWART—I would suggest that the Bill be left in committee to enable us to refer to these ordinances.

His EXCELLENCY—Certainly.

The Bill was left in committee.

Council then resumed.

His EXCELLENCY—Council stands adjourned until Wednesday next.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Finance Committee was then held, the COLONIAL SECRETARY presiding. The following votes were passed:—

SANITARY DEPARTMENT.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of Six hundred Dollars (\$600) in aid of the vote, Sanitary Department, Other Charges, Sanitary Staff, Head Stones.

PUBLIC WORKS EXTRAORDINARY.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of Eighteen thousand Dollars (\$18,000) in aid of the vote, Public Works, Extraordinary, Causeway Bay Typhoon Refuge, Deepening shallow area to one foot below Ordinance Datum.

MONGKOKTSUI TYPHOON REFUGE.

At Friday's meeting of the Legislative Council a Bill authorising the construction and maintenance of a harbour of refuge upon the harbour frontage at Taikoktsui, Mongkoktsui and Yaumati, was read a first time. The works authorised by this Ordinance comprise the following:—

(1) The constructing of a detached rubble-mound breakwater commencing at a point about 1,000 feet south by east of the south-western corner of Kowloon Marine Lot 32, and terminating at a point about 900 feet west by north of the north-western corner of Kowloon Marine Lot 89; the said breakwater to be constructed entirely on the sea bed of the harbour.

(2) The constructing of a masonry jetty commencing at the western end of Saigon Street, and terminating at a point about 450 feet west by north of the point of commencement; the said jetty to be constructed on the foreshore and sea bed of the harbour.

(3) The reclaiming of a portion of the foreshore or sea bed adjoining and lying to the south of Kowloon Marine Lot 32, and the protecting of the area so reclaimed by means of walls and other necessary works.

(4) The levelling and reclaiming of the area of Crown land, foreshore or sea bed bounded as follows:—On the north by Public Square Street; on the east by Reclamation Street, Kowloon Inland Lots Nos. 563 and 562, and Canton Road; on the south by Kowloon Inland Lots Nos. 555 and 559, Battery Street, Kowloon Inland Lots Nos. 563 and 565, Canton Road, and Saigon Street; and on the west by imaginary lines connecting a point on the north side of Saigon Street and about 250 feet distant from the west side of Canton Road with a point on the south side of Public Square Street and opposite to the south-western corner of Kowloon Marine Lot No. 39.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE HONGKONG BANK AND THE UNIVERSITY SCHEME.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

DEAR SIR,—An announcement has recently appeared in the local papers to the effect that the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation has contributed the sum of \$50,000.00 towards the Endowment Fund of the Hongkong University. Though I presume there is no doubt as to the legality of the Board's action in voting this donation without consulting the wishes of shareholders, it would be of interest to shareholders to know on what ground the vote was made.

Neither myself nor any other Hongkong shareholder doubts for an instant the spirit of philanthropy actuating our esteemed fellow citizen, Mr. Mody, in initiating the Hongkong University scheme and most liberally contributing the cost of the buildings. But whilst one may admire his generosity and public spirit, one may honestly be sceptical of the usefulness of the project and have strong grounds for belief that it is not worthy of support. Hongkong in the past has witnessed the inception of philanthropic schemes that have not by any means fulfilled the expectations of their promoters.

Once upon a time a Reformatory was built and presented to the Colony by an Eminent citizen. Opened with a flourish of Gubernatorial Trumpets. Declared to fill a long-felt want. The Government managed to secure one specimen for reformation. The boy did not like the process. Walked out one night. Never returned. This disheartened the Government. The Institution was wisely closed. It was not wanted. Money wasted. Moral:—Always Look a Philanthropist's Gift in the Mouth!

Something more is required in the expenditure of the Corporation's funds than following the lead of a generous donor, seeing that the Bank's example will be used to bring pressure to bear on others. There should be strong grounds for belief that its donation will be used beneficially to the community in which the bank's interests are situated.

Assuming that the technical training the University proposes to afford will be of value to the individual student, which is quite a debatable matter, and granting that it will be successful in attracting pupils, which is more than doubtful considering the educational qualifications it is proposed to require from the entrants, the influence of the Institution to justify the Bank's grant should be of benefit both to the foreign and native communities of this Colony and of the neighbouring empire.

Does an examination of the results obtained by similar educational efforts under like circumstances warrant a belief that its influence will be an unmixed blessing either to the foreigner or the native?

Ask the foreign communities in Japan whether conditions in that country have improved during the last thirty years! Is business more profitable or easier to conduct? Has not every opportunity been taken to oust the foreigner in every direction? From the foreign resident's point of view, I venture to say we are helping to gather together the twigs that will go to form the birch to castigate the backs, possibly not of ourselves, but certainly of those who follow after us.

A still more striking example is the India of to-day, a country where the growing spirit of unrest and sedition finds its strongest forcing grounds in the universities and high schools. Will it benefit this Colony or increase its prestige to turn out a large percentage of impracticable dreamers of the type manufactured by the Indian Institutions? Are you doing the foreigner in China or the Chinese themselves a service by breeding a race of graduates and "Failed B.A.s" to preach the doctrine that "Killing the foreigner is no murder" and to instil the subtle poison of resistance to all lawful government in the minds of the less intelligent? Those are the results to-day of education in India and the latest fruit of that system must be vividly before the minds

of all of us in the murder of Sir Curzon Wyllie and Dr. Lalcaca.

I am aware that the promoters of the Hongkong University claim that some of the dangers above indicated will be obviated by the home associations and restraining influences which will surround the students during the time their training is in progress. Doubtless the site for the University Buildings has been specially selected within, well, speaking distance of the West Point District, in order that these moral influences and family associations may have the fullest scope. How the British public do like to be humbugged!

By voting this substantial amount towards the University, the Board may be taken to have signified their collective belief in the soundness and desirability of the scheme. Such an opinion, I venture to say, is not held either by the majority of the Bank's shareholders or the European members of the general community, whose attitude, at the best, may be designated as one of "lukewarm acquiescence." It is unbelievable that the individual members of the Board can be so far out of touch with the general sentiment. They have my sympathy if their collective action is the result of pressure. The Bank's vote will be used as an example and as a lever to extract contributions from every Hong and Company in this Colony. If, whether in sympathy with the scheme or not, will be made to feel that it is necessary to follow suit according to their means, as a refusal will result in their being "sent to Coventry."

Knowing the result of appearing to oppose or hold one's own opinion about the "Fad of the moment" in Hongkong, I prefer to shelter myself under the cloak of anonymity. Nevertheless, I trust that the Chairman in his speech at the Bank's Meeting to-morrow will see fit to take the shareholders into his confidence as to the reasons for the Board's action. His remarks will be listened to with great interest by those present as well as by

A BANK SHAREHOLDER.

Hongkong, August 20th.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS"]

Canton, 23rd August, 1909.

SIR,—It is a pity that a solitary discordant letter appeared in your issue of 21st inst., over a *nomme de plume* of "A Bank shareholder." When he was so sceptical of the usefulness of this project, and when he believed that it was not worthy of support, he should have adduced strong arguments in support of his contention, but instead, he showed his narrow-mindedness by decrying higher education among Chinese, setting up a bogey of one day being castigated on the back by the self-same youngsters who will get the blessings of a university education. If this bank shareholder means to pocket his fat bonus every year at the expense of the Chinese, who should be, in his opinion, always hewers of wood and drawers of water, he should know others, or rather almost all shareholders, are not of the same selfish mind. They showed their liberal-mindedness by cordially approving, at the meeting of Saturday last, the handsome donation, and thus neatly sent the captious writer to "Coventry." No better answer could have been given. If this writer conscientiously believed the University scheme would be a failure and the donation a mistake, where was he during the Bank meeting? Why had he not the courage of his conviction to cry it down? Perhaps he thought there were too many twigs to form too strong a birch to castigate his devoted back.

He hangs his arguments on the peg of Indian politics and points to the present case in India. Such irresponsible and captious writers have more often than not done much mischief in India and England; they superficially see a thing, meddle and muddle. If University education has manufactured a handful of malcontents, it has also produced thousands of youths who would be ready to lay down their lives for the British rule, for they know well that in defending it they defend their hearths and homes. How were the murders of Sir Curzon Wyllie and Dr. Lalcaca received in India? From Cashmere to Cape Comorin, the Indians of all castes and creeds showed their horror and detestation of this madman's crime; individuals, corporations,

large and small, showed their condemnation: voted sentiments of loyalty to their Emperor, and University educationalists were the first to lead their uneducated brethren in the movement. Aye, even the parents and brothers of the fanatic (all University men, by the bye) disowned their kith and kin for their country and honour's sake. Why is this not seen and appreciated by such writers as "A Bank Shareholder?" Why do they see through the wrong end of the glass?—class prejudice. University education not fit for the Chinese or Indian, forsooth! If it be sauce for the goose, it is ditto for the gander. Sturdy, stern old Britons—all glory to them—were not of this opinion, and they knew better, as they were disinterested. *O tempora, O mores!*—Yours, &c.,

H. S. KAVARANA.

LACK OF EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES AT THE PEAK.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

DEAR SIR,—I was very pleased to see "Children's Friend's" letter in the *Daily Press* this morning re the education of children living in the Peak district, and I am sure that all Peak residents will endorse every word that he has written; it is a subject which should have been raised long since, and no doubt would have been but for the proverbial apathy with which the Hongkong resident treats most local matters.

There are schools for European children in Kowloon and Hongkong, and even the Military authorities provide good schools for their children, and the powers that be are straining every nerve to raise a large sum to provide a University for the Chinese (who, by the way, are quite able to provide it for themselves if they want it), yet the Peak residents (who are tax-payers) are completely neglected in this respect.

Surely it should be the interest of the Government to increase educational facilities in the Colony, and so enable us to keep our children with us a few years longer. Why should Hongkong, a Crown Colony, be so far behind Shanghai in educational matters? I am afraid the answer is: because it is a Crown Colony.

Possibly the responsible authorities have hitherto assumed that all Peak residents are wealthy taipans and can afford to provide private tuition for their children, but I should like to assure them that such is not the case, and that a Kindergarten School on the lines suggested by your correspondent would meet with very great appreciation.—I am, dear sir, yours faithfully,

X.Y.Z.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

Hongkong, 24th August, 1909.

DEAR SIR—I have read the correspondence relative to the above subject in your columns, and also the leader in your to-day's issue.

The matter does not seem to progress, and seeing that the Government has its work out out to raise revenue it is unlikely that assistance may be expected from that quarter.

I estimate a Kindergarten School could be run at a cost of \$400 per month at most. Say, \$250 for a Mistress and \$150 for rent, pupil, teacher, stationery, &c.—and I fancy the expenditure would be covered by the monthly school fees.

It has been suggested to me that one of the rooms at the Peak Tram Station (topside) would make a good schoolroom. Failing which it should not be difficult to obtain another.

Now, all that is necessary is for ten good men (wealthy taipans or otherwise) to each guarantee \$40 per month in school fees. If the guarantors have a child or children attending, the fees for such can be deducted from the amount of \$40 guaranteed.

If the school is run by Government, you are bound to accept any pupil the former may choose to send you.

The style "Government," "State," or "Board" School doesn't appeal to many parents, and the title "Kindergarten" will probably not suit "his little Nibs" aged 9 years, who objects

"to go to school with kids." I suggest that it be named "The Peak Private School."

Only ten men are wanted to come along and guarantee only \$40 per month each.

The population, as you say, is a moving one, but I venture to say that at any time it should be possible to find ten people to give the necessary guarantee.

I would start the ball rolling myself, but as yet I am only an embryo pupil provider.—
Yours faithfully,

PARENT.

A STAR FERRY COXSWAIN FINED.

Before Lieut. C. W. Beckwith, R. N., at the Marine Magistrate's Court on Aug. 25, Lance-Sergeant Caygill proceeded against the master of the ferry launch *Southern Star* for failing to observe the rules of the road for preventing collisions at sea.

Prosecutor stated that at about 12.10 a.m. on Aug. 23 he was a passenger by the *Southern Star* from Hongkong to Kowloon. When about half-way across the harbour witness observed a junk on the starboard bow close to the Kowloon praya wall. The junk was burning the regulation lights, and going from east to west with the tide and wind. When within one hundred yards of the sailing craft the *Southern Star* went to port instead of keeping straight on and going under the stern of the junk. The latter had to alter its course to port to avoid a collision, and rubbed alongside the ferry. Witness went down to the wheel-house and found the No. 2 coxswain in charge.

Defendant stated that he altered his course after the junk, and would have been clear had the latter kept its course.

His Worship held the coxswain to blame, but as his record was a good one he would impose a fine of \$2 only, as a warning.

DISOBEDIENCE AT SEA.

The entire crew of the s.s. *Syria*, numbering twenty-seven Lascars, were charged at the Marine Court yesterday, before Lieut. Beckwith, R.N., with wilful disobedience while at sea.

Capt. D. C. Gregor stated that the men refused duty from the 21st to the 25th of August, and in spite of being twice logged and fined they again refused to obey orders while in dock. They assaulted the artificer in charge of the refrigerating machine, and for this they were again logged and fined, but they repeated the conduct later and had to be separated by the officers.

Charles Dear, the boatswain, stated that he had had great trouble with the second tyndal, who had repeatedly insulted the chief officer and also threatened to kill him as well as witness. The four ringleaders incited the crew to insult the officers and refuse duty, and also dared witness to give any further orders to the Lascars in pursuit of his duty.

His Worship sentenced the second tyndal to 12 weeks' hard labour, and to forfeit 12 days' pay; the five ringleaders to eight weeks' imprisonment with the forfeiture of eight days' pay; and two others to six weeks' imprisonment and the surrender of six days' pay. He told the remainder to go back to the ship and work, but they refused to do so and he ordered them to be imprisoned for four weeks each and to forfeit four days' pay.

STABBING AFFRAY ON THE S.S. "LIGHTNING."

A serious stabbing affray took place on the s.s. *Lightning* while the vessel was lying in the harbour on Thursday. It appears that two Chinese seamen quarrelled while at work, and as they were in the midst of wordy strife another seaman rushed in between them with a clasp knife, stabbing one of the disputants on the arm, and with a second blow he drove the knife into the back of the same man. Europeans on board at this stage intervened, the wounded man was removed to hospital and the other two were handed over to the police. They were charged before Mr. F. A. Hazeland at the Magistracy yesterday and the man who used the knife was sent to jail for two months with hard labour. The other defendant was discharged.

REPORTED HIGHWAY ROBBERY.

INDIAN POLICE ESCORT ROUGHLY HANDLED.

News reached the city on Aug. 20 of a desperate encounter between an escort of Indian police and a gang of highway robbers near Au Tau in the New Territory. We understand that the police were in charge of a sum of \$400 which had been collected as Crown rent, and the robbers were apparently cognizant of this fact and laid their plans accordingly. The police were taken unawares, but they put up a bold fight and only yielded up their treasure when most of the men comprising the escort were injured, many seriously. The robbers escaped with the booty.

It is stated that a European police sergeant was formerly in charge of this escort, but that his services were dispensed with on the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee.

Following on the *Daily Press* exclusive report of the highway robbery which occurred near Au Tau last week, we now learn that the Chinese brigands who "held up" the police escort found it necessary to commit a d. al murder before they were able to secure the \$400 of Government money which was being conveyed to Taipo. A Chinese coolie carried the money, which had been collected for Crown rents, and he was escorted by an Indian sergeant and an Indian constable, both of whom were armed. The robbers, apparently, were aware of the movements of the escort, and were prepared to meet them in a quiet spot where the ambush they arranged was almost sure to be successful.

As the treasure bearer and his guardians were passing through a deep gulch, the sides of which were densely matted with undergrowth, eight armed Chinese awaited them. Rounding a bend, they saw two peaceable looking natives approaching. One said "Cho san" to the Indian sergeant, in a cheery voice, but before the latter could reply a chopper clove his skull, and other effective blows fell on his body, absolutely disabling him. The second man, the constable, was rushed upon by the other Chinese, and with the assistance of those in ambush was promptly despatched. Meantime the coolie carrying the cash dropped it, and was successful in escaping. He lost no time in reporting the occurrence to the police, and it was through his immediate action that detectives were set on the trail early. Prompt as the response of the police was, however, it is expected that the highwaymen have evaded them by passing over to Chinese territory.

It appears that our reporter received erroneous information when he was informed that the Retrenchment Committee recommended that it was unnecessary to employ a European sergeant on this escort duty. The change appears to have been made prior to the appointment of the Committee. We understand that this escort always was in charge of a European sergeant until a few years ago, when a number of the British police were recalled from the New Territory.

PHILIPPINE BONDS ISSUED IN THE UNITED STATES.

The latest Philippine bond issue of P3,000,000 has been taken up without the slightest hesitation, says the *Anila Cablenews*. It has been subscribed to by the National City Bank and Mercantile Trust Company on a joint bid by Payne and Company; by Morris and Merritt, and by John Selvrom. The bids of these firms were as follows:

The National City Bank and Mercantile Trust Company, P2,776,000 at 100.28.
Payne and Company, 1200,000 at 100.51.
Morris and Merritt, P10,000 at 102.
John Selvrom, P6 000 at 101.

One of the terms of the purchase of the bonds was that the purchaser shall pay accrued interest on the bonds from August 1.

The Guaranty Trust Company of New York made an offer of 100.23 for the entire issue, on the terms that they should be allowed to take all or none.

There were no other bids than those mentioned.

OPIUM IN HONGKONG AND THE STRAITS.

AN APPEAL TO RESIST THE CONTRIBUTION TO HONGKONG.

The House of Commons on July 27 went into Committee of Supply on the Colonial Office Vote, when Mr. Bennett called attention to the opium traffic in Hongkong and Ceylon. The International Opium Conference had, he said, since this subject was last debated, met at Shanghai, and had settled once for all the unquestionably evil character of the traffic, and the absolute sincerity of the Chinese Government. In Hongkong there had been some measure of progress, although it had met with the utmost opposition from the Imperial servants of this country. Sir F. Lugard had said that Lord Crewe had asked the Imperial Government for a sum of money to make good the loss caused by the closing of the opium dens. He hoped that Lord Crewe did not make that statement, but if he did he trusted that members on that side and the Labour Party would strenuously resist the application of the money of the British taxpayer to such a purpose. The opposition of a British Governor to the action of the Imperial Government was very deplorable. That our Imperial officers should be permitted openly to thwart our policy was intolerable, and some very sharp treatment should be dealt out to those Governors who resisted our efforts in different parts of the world. In Ceylon, instead of making progress, we had gone backwards, the opium ordinance introduced at the end of last year having been withdrawn. Both in Hongkong and Ceylon more stringent measures were necessary to deal with the opium traffic.

Mr. Laidlaw referred to the evidence given before the International Opium Commission, and urged that pressure should be put upon the Government of Hongkong to proceed more rapidly with the closing of opium dens in that city. If we were to carry out our promise to do all we could to help China in this matter of the opium traffic we must set our house in order in our own colonies. We must impress upon our officials that the suppression of the opium trade was not a Liberal fad, and that things would not revert to the old way directly this Government went out of office. The officials in Hongkong ought to look to some source other than opium for immediate revenue. A system of registration of opium smokers, which had proved beneficial elsewhere, might be tried in Hongkong. The hon. member also complained of the prevalence of gambling under the British flag in the Federated Malay States. Gambling was more in evidence in those States than it was at Monte Carlo. People went to Monte Carlo with sums of money which they could very well afford to lose, but in the Federated Malay States the persons engaging in the vice were almost entirely Chinese coolies. Active measures should be taken by the Colonial Office to repress this evil.

Colonel Seely, referring to the opium question, said that in Hongkong by the end of February, 1910, all the opium dens would have been closed. There were people who said that the result would be to drive the smoking of opium into other quarters, but the Conference was in favour of closing the divans, and the best information the Government could get led them to believe that this was a good plan. It was intended to continue to restrict the amount of opium imported. With regard to the Federated Malay States, the Government was about to set up a State monopoly of opium, which he thought met with the general approval of those who wished to see a diminution of its consumption. They wished to check the habit of gambling and their aim was to reduce it to the narrowest limits with a view to ultimate prohibition. On the question of the view of the Government in regard to opium generally, they considered it to be a bad thing for a race, and that the more it could be checked and stopped the better for all concerned. It this matter they had the example of the Japanese, who were stamping it out by savage penalties, and of China, who was also trying to shake herself free from the habit. They would not cease to do their best to assist China and to diminish as far as possible, and as soon as

possible, the consumption of opium in all places where the Colonial Office had rule.

Mr. Verney expressed dissatisfaction with the statement which he understood the Under-Secretary to have made—that it was intended to create a Government monopoly in opium in the Federated Malay States. He commended to the Government as worthy of imitation the action of the Siamese Government in extirpating gambling dens which had been a Government monopoly in Siam and had yielded a large revenue, and of the Japanese Government in taking drastic means to exclude opium from their country to the immense advantage of its people.

THE QUESTION OF RAILWAY STATIONS.

THE TIENTSIN-PUKOW LINE.

On the occasion of the retirement of Li Te-Shun, the director of the Northern part of the Tientsin-Pukow Railway, it was asserted that he had endeavoured to cause the railway station at Tientsin to be constructed in the neighbourhood of the German settlement and that he had received large sums of money as a bribe for that purpose from the Deutsch-Asiatische Bank connected with that company.

We have been asked to state that, although it was a question at the beginning of the negotiations of constructing the station partly on German, partly on English territory, nevertheless, during the course of the whole negotiations, which were conducted with full publicity neither from the German nor from the English side were offers or promises of any kind made to the Chinese negotiators nor to any other Chinese officials.

In the further course of negotiations, the Chinese Government, quite according to European custom and with full publicity—demanded from both of the concessions, a subsidy towards the expenses of building the railway, which subsidy was quoted at such a high figure that negotiations had to be given up as hopeless.

When finally the site for the projected station was selected at a spot far removed from the European settlements (which caused these settlements to take no further interest in the matter) a Chinese syndicate, knowing how matters stood, bought up large quantities of land near the spot chosen, as a speculation. The German and English communities were neither directly nor indirectly concerned in this matter.

THE ANTUNG-MUKDEN RAILWAY QUESTION.

RECENT NEGOTIATIONS.

Mr. Ijūin, Japanese Minister to China, on the 6th inst. notified the Chinese Government that the work of reconstructing the Antung-Mukden railway line would be forthwith undertaken. To this intimation the Chinese Government replied, on the 7th inst., stating that China did not insist upon her objections regarding the change of the existing gauge or to such rectification of the line as was found to be technically necessary. The reply also expressed a desire that the question of the rectification of the line might be submitted to the Commissioners to be appointed by the two countries. Mr. Ijūin on the 10th inst., in pursuance of instructions from the Japanese Government, addressed a Note to the Chinese Government pointing out that the proposed change in the location of the line was not only confined to what was absolutely necessary from technical considerations, but it was, in fact, based on the result of the joint survey already made by the Commissioners of both Governments. The Note added that under these circumstances there would be no necessity for dispatching joint commissioners for the purpose of repeating surveys which had already been completed, and consequently that it was desirable that the Chinese Government, in view of the urgent necessity for speedy reconstruction of the line, should at once approve of that portion of the line which has been already surveyed and agreed upon by the Commissioners of both Governments.

The Chinese Government on the 13th inst. sent a reply which the Japanese Government thought justified them in assuming that China was fully prepared to recognize the immediate necessity of reconstructing the Antung-Mukden line and that she desired to render all necessary co-operation in carrying out the undertaking. The Japanese Government thereupon, in consideration of the friendly relations between China and Japan, instructed Mr. T. Koike, Japanese consul-general at Mukden, to sign a memorandum with H. E. Viceroy Hsi Liang, and accordingly on the 19th inst. a memorandum to the following effect was signed.

1. The same gauge as that of the Peking-Mukden railway shall be adopted.

2. Both Japan and China shall recognize and approve the whole line as already surveyed and agreed to by the commissioners of both Governments, but the location of that portion of the line from Chen-Hsiangtung to Mukden shall remain to be decided by mutual conference between the two countries.

3. On and from the date when the memorandum is signed, negotiations for the purchase of land and for the adjustment of all other details shall be instituted.

4. From that time, the day following the signing of memorandum, that is to say, from the day after the negotiations above mentioned are instituted, the work of the reconstruction shall be accelerated.

5. China shall instruct the local officials along the line to give every facility regarding the execution of the work.

THE HEALTH OF WEIHAIWEI.

The Weihaiwei correspondent of the N. C. Daily News writing on Aug. 20th says:—

In view of the alarmist rumours that have apparently reached Shanghai of ailments among the children staying here, I made some investigations to-day. Among forty-three children of whom I obtained news, there have been five cases of dysentery altogether, three serious and two slight, a very small percentage when one remembers the number of delicate and sickly children included in the forty-three who are sent up North "to save their lives," and the majority of whom are now looking plump and rosy, in spite of the high temperature and rain that we have had to put up with this year. One death has occurred, that of a delicate infant who arrived, I am told, in a very sickly condition. I am informed that there is no reason to suppose that the hotels of Weihaiwei are in any way responsible for the disease. I also hear of two children who are ill, one in Half Moon Bay of dysentery, and one in Port Edward of enteritis, and I believe a case of scarlet fever has just developed on the Island.

I gathered these details from the Officer of Health, Dr. Muat, and from the manageress of one of the principal hotels, the sanitary conditions of which are approved by the Officer of Health. As an extra measure of precaution distilled water only is now supplied at this hotel. In addition to Dr. Muat, I know of two doctors staying here, one on the mainland and one on the island, to say nothing of the naval service for his Majesty's ships.

PUBLIC WORK IN THE PHILIPPINES.

Concerning the military improvements at Corregidor, Colonel Bellinger informed a San Francisco newspaper reporter:—"When the warehouses are finished they will have a capacity for a two years' supply, and ultimately the Government expects to have a post there to the strength of twenty coast artillery companies. This, of course, is some distance in the future, as the appropriations have just been made for the beginning of the construction of these buildings. The sum of \$850,000 has been appropriated as a starter toward a warehouse, officers' quarters and barracks for the men, \$600,000 of which will be utilized toward the quarters, the other \$250,000 to go toward the depot."

Colonel Bellinger was the guest of honour at a farewell luncheon by the Chamber of Commerce, San Francisco, recently before returning to the Philippines.

AMARAL AND MESQUITA.

1849-1909.

[By a Portuguese Contributor.]

Sixty years ago two memorable events took place in Macao. One was the cowardly assassination of the then Governor, João Maria Ferreira de Amaral, on the 22nd August, 1849, and the other the heroic attack and the taking of Pak-sa-leang fortress by Lieutenant Mesquita—with 36 soldiers under his command—on the 25th August, 1849.

History tells us that when Governor Ferreira de Amaral landed at Macao to assume the Governorship on the 21st April, 1846, he made a solemn oath to emancipate the Colony from the yoke of the mandarins, and he fulfilled this vow at the cost of his life. The fiscal administration of the Colony was at the time controlled by the mandarins. Custom houses were established within the city, Customs dues were collected and paid to the Imperial Government, a Chinese tribunal tried and condemned Chinese subjects, the prefect and sub-prefect of Heungshan and Chiusan respectively exercised certain powers over the mandarins residing in Macao, and all sorts of abuses were tolerated within the Portuguese territory to the great detriment of the nation.

Governor Ferreira de Amaral soon put a stop to all these abuses. He ordered the Customs stations to be at once removed and refused to allow any Chinese tribunal within the city. The Chinese mandarins had no alternative but to retire to Chinese territory. They did not meekly obey, however. Their first attempt at resistance was to arrange a boycott by the passenger junks, which was immediately suppressed by the energy of the Governor, and things went on with apparent smoothness until a certain number of desperadoes, paid for by the mandarins, one day ambushed the Governor while riding across the Pagoda of Passaleas, and decapitated him, carrying away the head to the mandarins as proof of their claim to remuneration.

As soon as the news of the assassination of the Governor reached the city and the warning was given that an invasion of the Chinese was contemplated immediately, the brave Lieutenant Mesquita went to the Headquarters and asked permission to attack the fortress of Pak-Sa-leang, which was held by 400 Chinese soldiers with 18 guns and surrounded by about 2,000 natives with some artillery. The Council, admiring the courage of the young lieutenant, gave him permission to march. Calling out to his comrades—"Follow me who wish to die!" only 36 soldiers stepped forward. They marched courageously towards the fort, delivered their attack and the enemy, regarding the soldiers as devils, fled in all directions, abandoning guns, ammunition and all other impediments. Mesquita planted the national ensign, and the victors expressed their joy in cheers. To-day (the 25th August) completes the 60th anniversary of this victory of Pak-Sa-leang. Let the memory of this brave soldier and his comrades be honoured!

Lieut. Mesquita and his 36 brave comrades were all born in Macao. Only one of them is still alive, Sr. Luiz Marine do Rozario, who is still residing at Macao and is nearing the eightieth year of his age.

THE WASHHERMAN.

Gaunt and scraggy!
Lean and raggy!
In his bag he
Dips to find
Shirts and "sockses,"
Ladies' "Frockses,"
Nothing shocks his
Native mind!

By the water
(With his daughter),
Where he's wrought a
Thousand rents,
There he swings 'em,
Wrings 'em, flings 'em!
And he brings 'em
One month hence!

—Fookhow Echo

SUPREME COURT.

Friday, 20th August.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE THE PUISNE JUDGE (MR.
H. H. J. GOMPERTZ).

A HOUSEBOY'S CLAIM.

Lui Mui, a houseboy, brought an action to recover \$15, one month's wages from Mrs. C. Robertson, Quarry Bay. Mr. P. W. Goldring, for the defendant, asked for an adjournment as he had decided to bring a cross-action. He had paid \$8 into court with a denial of liability. His Lordship asked what the cross-action was for.

Mr. Goldring—Simply for damage for leaving without notice. The man was in the service of Mrs. Robertson from the 11th to the 26th July. It appears he ran away. He was very obstreperous and on the 26th July knocked down Mrs. Robertson and ran away. Police Court proceedings will be taken, but I want to dispose of this first.

His Lordship—When will the Police Court proceedings be taken?

Mr. Goldring—I shall begin when this is finished.

His Lordship—You have waited a long time.

Mr. Goldring—This is the first time I have been able to get hold of him.

His Lordship—Were the police immediately informed?

Mr. Goldring—No.

The application for an adjournment was acceded to.

Monday, 23rd August.

IN APPELLATE JURISDICTION.

BEFORE THE FULL COURT.

A COMPRADORE'S LIABILITIES.

The Full Court yesterday delivered its decision against the appeal from the judgment of the Chief Justice in the action in which Messrs. S. J. David and Co. sued their compradore, Chan Ut Chiu, claiming \$648,816.67, said to be due under a compradore's agreement. There was a counterclaim by the defendant for \$55,000 which was deposited under the agreement.

Mr. MacNeil and Mr. G. C. Alabaster, instructed by Mr. H. J. Gedge (of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master) appeared for the appellants (plaintiffs), and Sir Henry Berkeley, K.C., and Mr. M. W. Slade, instructed by Mr. J. Scott Harston (of Messrs. Ewens and Harston) represented the respondent.

The Chief Justice, in the course of a judgment which took three-quarters of an hour to deliver, after dealing with the arguments of counsel and the authorities quoted, said he was of opinion that there was here a clear statement, made by both parties to the deed, that when a demand was made, the fact of making the demand created the obligation to pay. It was not necessary to go to the extent of saying that the words "money owing" operated as a mortgage covenant to pay; it was sufficient to say that they were a statement of fact that the money was in fact owing, and being made in a deed the fact could not be denied. Having arrived at this conclusion it was not necessary to examine the interesting argument based on his decisions, as to the way in which the intention of the parties to a contract was to be ascertained. It would be convenient if he summarised the result of this judgment. First, so far as the mortgage was concerned: There was no personal covenant to pay Chinese losses. There was not sufficient evidence of any agreement outside the mortgage to pay these losses, either from the recitals of the mortgage or *aliunde*. The mortgage itself did not imply the existence of such an agreement or liability. The provisos for redemption could not be construed into covenants to pay the Chinese losses, although they were referred to in one of the covenants. There was no undertaking to pay the Chinese losses in the agreement. There was, however, a clause in the mortgage which said that demands might be made by the firm for the amount of the Chinese losses, where-

upon the proviso for redemption operated, and if the amount was not paid the security was forfeit. In this clause there was a statement that the money demanded should be due and owing in virtue of the demand. His Lordship was doubtful whether he could hold that this itself was an admission that the monies were due and owing, even applying the law that a statement made by a party to a deed binds him. But in the agreement there was a clause which manifestly referred to this clause in the mortgage as a security, and if a security, then a security for the amount owing. There was, therefore, a statement in the deed that the monies demanded were owing in virtue of the demand; they could not be owing except by the person who was called upon to pay the money by the demand. This reference to the admission in the deed, although it was made in a document which was not itself a deed, showed clearly, if the mortgage did not itself show it, that the intention of the parties to the deed was that the mortgage was a security for the payment by the compradore of monies so demanded by the firm, and so owing by the compradore, on the strength of which another and further security in cash was given by the agreement. His Lordship was, therefore, of the opinion that the judgment in the Court below should be reversed, and that judgment be entered for the plaintiff with costs of the Court below and of this appeal.

The Puisne Judge, after dealing at length with the facts, said the position as he apprehended it was shortly as follows:—When a Chinese customer got goods from the firm and made default the vendor then suffered a loss, but he had taken from the compradore an assignment of leaseholds by way of mortgage, with a proviso that the compradore should not be entitled to redeem unless on demand he made good that loss. When the demand was made the monies became owing, and that meant, he thought, owing from the compradore. It would have been simple enough to provide that on losses being increased the firm might go against the property, sell it, and recoup themselves. But that had not been done: the proviso was that they must first ask the compradore to pay. He must get a demand in writing. On this demand he might, if he chose, pay, and on payment he was entitled, subject to the terms of the instrument to redeem his property. If he did not pay, the money did not cease to be owing, but he was not so far bound to pay. It was entirely optional for him to pay or not, and if he did not pay he could not be sued, because he had, it seemed, expressly refrained from agreeing to pay. He had instead of that provided a security, the property, and the parties had apparently expressly agreed that the firm should resort to that in default of payment. On the mortgage alone the firm could not sue him. It was recognised that a demand might be made on him, but on his default they could only go against the land. The effect then was that under the mortgage deed the liability of the compradore, not being a personal liability, was limited by the value of the mortgaged property. A much greater amount might be owing, but he need not pay unless he chose. If he did not, he lost his property. Or, if for any sentimental reason he preferred to keep his property he must pay the sum demanded, which might be a very much larger amount than the property was worth. It might be said that the principle that money might be owing from a man without his being under any personal liability to pay it, was unknown to the law. The answer was that it was not sufficient to look at the mortgage deed alone, because that document did not and was never intended to set out the whole agreement arrived at by the parties on January 30th, 1902. It is and was intended by the parties to be incomplete if read by itself. If the mortgage stood by itself, the absence of a personal covenant was in itself so significant a feature that the mere fact that money was stated to be owing on demand would, he thought, rebut any presumption of personal liability. But one could not, in documents so mutually connected as this mortgage and this agreement, take first one and construe it independently, and then proceed to interpret the second separately as if each were executed as an isolated transaction. The

meaning of the parties could only be given effect to if the two documents were taken as a whole, one completing the other. When his Lordship found a man saying in a document that money may be owing on demand made on him in writing, and saying in another document of even date, and to be read conjunctively with the first, that he would pay monies owing from him under the first document, then he felt obliged to conclude that the second statement related to the first, and to show how that first must be interpreted. He thought then that although in this case it was accurate to say that the compradore was not personally liable under the mortgage alone, yet we must also say that, as it clearly did not stand alone, he had declared that under it there might be monies owing from him on demand, and that he had, under the agreement which completed the mortgage, expressly recognised that money might be so owing. He had, then, made a deposit as security for any monies that might be owing, and further expressly undertook an unlimited personal liability in respect of them. His Lordship thought that the appeal must succeed with costs here, and in the Court below.

Mr. Alabaster moved for judgment for plaintiffs for the amount endorsed on the writ.

The Chief Justice—re not there some accounts?

Mr. Slade—Yes, but this is quite preliminary. There are a dozen or two more defences. This is only a preliminary canter.

The Chief Justice—It is a canter right round the course.

Mr. Slade—Your Lordships decide that there is an unlimited liability upon the mortgage for whatever may be due?

The Chief Justice—Yes, on the accounts. We had better say that the judgment in the Court below be reversed with costs here and in the Court below.

Mr. Slade applied for a stay of execution for a fortnight, which was granted.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

ACTION FOR CRIMINAL CONVERSATION.

The action between Captain A. Mitchell, of the Indo-China Steam Navigation Company, and John Lemm, architect, came on for hearing before his Honour the Chief Justice and a special jury composed of Messrs. E. J. Hughes (foreman), J. W. Bolles, E. Shellim, M. S. Sassoon, M. S. Northcote, G. C. Moxon and E. H. Hinds.

Mr. Ho Fook was the first juror called, but was excused on the application of Mr. Slade. Mr. J. T. Douglas was also excused from sitting because he informed the Court that he was prejudiced in the case.

Plaintiff claimed from the defendant \$15,000 as general moral damages, and \$17,187.23 as special damages for money paid and payable in connection with divorce proceedings in Edinburgh.

Sir Henry Berkeley, instructed by Mr. H. W. Looker (of Messrs. Deacon, Looker and Deacon) appeared for the plaintiff, while defendant was represented by Mr. M. W. Slade, who was instructed by Mr. P. M. Hodgson (of Messrs. Ewens and Harston).

Sir Henry Berkeley opened by reading the pleadings to the jury.

The statement of claim showed that the plaintiff was a bankrupt and master mariner in the employ of the Indo-China Steam Navigation Co., Ltd., who carry on business at Hongkong. The defendant was at present absent from the Colony, but carried on business as an architect at 64, Queen's Road Central. At the time and places hereinafter mentioned the defendant unlawfully debauched and carnally knew one, Henrietta Maud Mitchell, she then being plaintiff's wife and bearing his name; (a) On different occasions in the months of February, March, June, July and August, 1899: at No. 4 and also at No. 8, Granville Avenue, Kowloon, during the absence of the plaintiff from the Colony; (b) On occasions in the months of June, July and August, 1900, which the plaintiff could not more particularly specify, at 4, Granville Avenue; (c) On occasions during a period extending from January, 1901, to September, 1902, inclusive, at No. 6, Rose Terrace, Kowloon; (d) On the 12th and 13th October, 1904, at

the Boa Vista Hotel, Macao; (e) On the 11th and 12th December at the Boa Vista Hotel; (f) On occasions in the months of April, May, June, July, August, September and October, 1905, at Eran Bungalow, otherwise known as Cherub Villa, Observatory Road, Kowloon. In consequence of the said misconduct of his wife with the defendant, the plaintiff on November 7th obtained a decree of divorce from the first division of the Court of Sessions, Edinburgh. The costs and expenses which the plaintiff had paid or become liable to pay amounted to \$14,359.14, and particulars of the special damage were set out.

At this stage Sir Henry Berkeley stopped reading to inform the Court that the amount paid by the plaintiff to Messrs. Deacon, Looker and Deacon, \$2,828.00, had been omitted, and he asked permission to add it to the claim.

Mr. Slade stated that as there was an application for amendment he would ask that the claim be amended by striking out a very substantial amount. There was much that could not be recovered in this action.

His Lordship thought the best thing would be to treat the question as a question of law.

Mr. Slade asked for particulars as to how the \$2,000 odd plaintiff now wished to add to his claim was made up.

Sir Henry Berkeley said it was costs paid to Messrs. Deacon, Looker and Deacon in respect of the Scotch divorce. Counsel then concluded reading the statement of claim, which stated that the plaintiff claimed for damages for the misconduct of the defendant with Henrietta Maud Mitchell \$15,000, and special damages for money paid and payable in connection with the Edinburgh divorce proceedings, \$17,187.23.

In the statement of defence the defendant denied unlawfully debauching and carnally knowing at any time the plaintiff's wife. He was not a party to any divorce proceedings commenced by the plaintiff, and was in no way bound by any decree made in such proceedings. He did not admit that the plaintiff became liable to pay the costs of or incidental to any such proceedings.

Counsel then proceeded to tell the jury that the facts in the statement of claim formally set out all the grievances which Captain Mitchell had to lay before them, and in respect of which he claimed at their hands substantial damages. In addition to the special damages he was asking the jurors to give him a substantial sum of money as general damages, for what might be called moral damages for the great wrong Captain Mitchell had sustained at the hands of Mr. Lemm, and for the intolerable insults he had suffered at the hands of the defendant. The jury would give such damages as they might think justified, and, so to speak, would make the punishment fit the crime. They were not bound by any limit claimed in the writ, but were at liberty to give any damages they pleased.

His Lordship pointed out that it was not permissible to discuss the amount of damages with the jury.

Sir Henry Berkeley, proceeding, said this was an action for what was commonly known as criminal conversation; that meant an action in which a husband claimed compensation and damages against another man for having committed adultery with his wife. The term "criminal conversation" was no longer in use at home, because in England the Divorce Court had jurisdiction which enabled it to give damages to a petitioner on his petition for divorce. Although actions for criminal conversation were no longer necessary in England, they had to be brought in Hongkong, because, while the Supreme Court here had jurisdiction in matrimonial affairs as far as ordering a judicial separation between the parties, it had no jurisdiction in divorce itself. In November, 1906, Captain Mitchell obtained a decree of divorce from his wife in the Court of Session in Scotland on the ground of her adultery with Mr. Lemm.

Mr. Slade—My friend really should restrain himself. It is perfectly incompetent for him in this action to make any use of the proceedings in Scotland for the purpose of establishing the guilt or otherwise of the defendant in this case.

His Lordship—What is the nature of your objection?

Mr. Slade—For reasons of his own, rightly or wrongly, the plaintiff in this action did not

make Mr. Lemm a party to the divorce proceedings. The defendant, therefore, had no opportunity of being represented on those proceedings in Scotland. He is not a party to those proceedings, and whatever happened there cannot be referred to in this case.

His Lordship called on Sir Henry Berkeley. The fact of adultery with anybody was not proved by the Scotch judgment. In the circumstances it could only be held to prove the fact of adultery, but it did not prove against the present defendant.

Sir Henry Berkeley said he was entitled to prove the fact of the divorce in Scotland.

His Lordship—If you could do that you need not call any witnesses.

Sir Henry Berkeley said that would not be sufficient. He was entitled to prove the fact of the divorce, and he could prove it by means of the Scotch judgment. That judgment, as a foreign one, was admissible in evidence in the Court of England.

His Lordship—Between the parties?

Sir Henry Berkeley—Yes.

His Lordship—Mr. Lemm was not a party.

Sir Henry Berkeley said he desired to prove the fact of the divorce for what it might be worth; just merely as the fact of the consequence flowing from the defendant's act. He produced the judgment of the Court of Session for that purpose, and argued that all judgments of the Court of Scotland were admissible.

His Lordship—You will prove the fact that the Scotch Court filed a divorce with some person unknown.

Sir Henry Berkeley said he must be allowed to prove the fact that the plaintiff's wife was divorced. He submitted that he could put in the judgment of the Court of Session.

His Lordship—How does it affect this case? It is not relevant.

Sir Henry Berkeley—It is relevant to the fact that a divorce was granted. Then I can proceed to show with whom, apart from the judgment.

His Lordship—That is irrelevant to this issue. One of the points which is not at all settled is how far the finding of fact does bind. Either it is evidence or it is not.

Sir Henry Berkeley—A fact may frequently be evidence for what it is worth. The whole of the circumstances in this case is made up of facts from which adultery is to be inferred. I formally tender the Scotch judgment. Will you rule it out?

His Lordship—The mere fact that the defendant was not a party rules it out at once. The fact of there being a Scotch divorce must be entirely removed from the mind of the jury.

Sir Henry Berkeley—I will have to allude to it for the proceedings here. I will have to point out that these proceedings are brought against Mr. Lemm in this Court because Mr. Lemm could not be made a party.

His Lordship—You cannot do that. My opinion is that the judgment should not be referred to, and I said so from the very first. I don't see how it can be mentioned.

Sir Henry Berkeley said he understood that his learned friend had just raised the point that plaintiff ought to have made Mr. Lemm a party to the proceedings in Scotland.

Argument on the point was deferred.

Sir Henry Berkeley informed the jurors that in July, 1907, when an action was commenced in this Court by Captain Mitchell against Mr. Lemm, claiming damages as he was now claiming, those damages included a sum of money which Captain Mitchell was liable to pay on account of proceedings he had taken elsewhere charging his wife with adultery with Mr. Lemm.

Mr. Slade—If my friend is stating these things he ought to state them accurately: charging her with adultery with Mr. Lemm and several other people.

His Lordship—Even that is premature. The case has got to be proved.

Sir Henry Berkeley said he was aware of that. In order to proceed with his action in 1907 Captain Mitchell had to find security for costs. This he had to do because he was rarely in Hongkong. He was ordered to give a sum of \$2,000 as security for the costs of the defendant, Mr. Lemm.

His Lordship—The tail of the horse is on the head. Don't open with damages first, but open the case of adultery.

Sir Henry Berkeley said he was proposing to do it in a much shorter way, and in a way which would be more comprehensive to the jury. Proceeding, he stated that as a result of the proceedings which the plaintiff had taken in consequence of the wrongs done him by the defendant, the former had incurred such liabilities as to cause him to become bankrupt. Therefore, to-day he was a bankrupt, and that fact was due to one of the direct consequences of the wrongs done him by the defendant. Captain Mitchell had been in the employ of the Indo-China Steam Navigation Company for 19 years. He entered the service as a mate in 1891, and worked his way up by his steadiness, good conduct and ability as a seaman until he now commanded the fine steamer *Fook Sang*. About seven years after he entered this service Captain Mitchell was in a position to bring his wife to Hongkong from Australia. About that time he took the lease of a house at No. 4, Granville Avenue, Kowloon, for four years, and furnished it in a way suitable for the wife of a shipmaster. In bringing his wife and child here, Captain Mitchell decided to make Hongkong his headquarters, and naturally looked forward to years of happiness and comfort with his family. Mrs. Mitchell left Australia sometime in 1898, accompanied by her little daughter, who was some eight, nine or ten years old at that time. By the same steamer, the *Guthrie*, by which she travelled to Hongkong, the defendant, John Lemm, also travelled. He was accompanied by his wife, who at that time was a great invalid, and who shortly afterwards returned to Australia and unhappily died. Mr. Lemm married again. The acquaintance thus formed between Mr. Lemm and Mrs. Mitchell on the *Guthrie* lasted for something like six years, ripened into an intimacy which ultimately resulted in criminal intercourse taking place between them on several occasions while Captain Mitchell was away at sea with his ship in the performance of his duty. Mrs. Mitchell was an Australian, and Mr. Lemm, Counsel understood, was also an Australian. On Captain Mitchell's arrival here Mrs. Mitchell introduced Mr. Lemm to him, and the Captain received Mr. Lemm as a friend of his wife's, opened his house to him, and extended the hospitality which he would extend to any friend of his wife's. In return for that confidence and hospitality Mr. Lemm had inflicted wrongs upon Captain Mitchell of which the latter complained now. Counsel said he would offer evidence of acts by which the jury would be bound to draw the inference that the parties took the opportunity offered them to do the acts of adultery charged against them. He should have, in order to bring home the charge to the defendant, to call the servants. That was a distasteful thing to have to do, but in this case it was almost unavoidable. Europeans living in the neighbourhood at the time would also be called to give their testimony. Counsel said he would call evidence to show that Mrs. Mitchell decided to form a gentlemen's mess in her house, and this was done without the knowledge of Captain Mitchell. He would prove that while a Mr. Watkins and another member of the mess only had meals at the house, Mr. Lemm not only had his meals there, but slept there night after night during the time Captain Mitchell was away. He would also prove that while Mr. Lemm was in the house at night the only other occupants, barring the servants, were Mrs. Mitchell and her young child. From that fact he would ask the jury as reasonable men to draw the conclusion that adultery was committed by the parties. When Captain Mitchell returned home he was informed by his wife that she had formed a gentlemen's mess. He strongly disapproved of it and requested her to stop it. It would be proved that Mrs. Mitchell never told her husband that Mr. Lemm slept at the house; that she kept it as a secret from him, and that he never heard of it until some three or four years afterwards. Counsel then proceeded to ask the jury for substantial damages.

His Lordship—It is utterly out of order to discuss damages with the jury.

Sir Henry Berkeley—I have the right to ask the jury to give such a sum.

His Lordship said that Counsel could say no more than ask for heavy damages.

Sir Henry Berkeley—I must tell the jury why they should give me heavy damages.

His Lordship—You cannot say because the plaintiff is bankrupt that he must get heavy damages.

Sir Henry Berkeley—I can ask them to give me such an amount of general damages as will relieve him from financial difficulty for the future.

Mr. Slade—Set him up for life!

Sir Henry Berkeley—No, not to set him up for life. But the jury are entitled to give a man such damages as they think fit and right, and I can ask them to give the plaintiff such damages as will prevent him from lying under financial difficulties for years to come on account of the proceedings he had to take.

His Lordship—The utmost the jury can do, if they find the case is exceedingly bad, is to give vindictive damages.

Sir Henry Berkeley said he would ask them to give vindictive damages to mark their sense of the gravity of the offence committed by the defendant.

After tiffin,

Mr. Mitchell, examined by Sir Henry Berkeley, said he did not know that the defendant was occupying a room in his house when the messing arrangements were in progress. If he had known of it he certainly would not have approved of it. He remembered the month of May, because it was then he was appointed master of the *Fau Sang*. He went to Moji from Hongkong and returned about the month of June. He found his wife was not at home and he sent the boy to look for her. He came back and said Mrs. Mitchell was at No. 8, Granville Avenue. Witness was away from June till August, 1899, and his wife shortly afterwards went to Australia, returning in 1900. In July of that year he got back from Java two days before schedule time, and as the night was wet he and his wife retired about nine o'clock. About half an hour later a ricksha came to the door and someone got out of it, whereupon Mrs. Mitchell became excited and said that someone had stopped at their door. Witness remarked that surely no one would come to their house at that hour, especially as it was raining. The bell was rung, and the boy went to the door. Witness heard the boy say to Mrs. Mitchell, "master have come." She turned to witness and said, "Oh, yes, Mr. Lemm has come to pay you a visit." Mr. Lemm remarked that having seen the captain's boat at the anchorage, he had called to see him. Witness remarked that his boat was not anchored at the Jardine buoy, so he did not know how Lemm had seen it. Lemm replied that he could not remember at which buoy he had noticed the steamer, but he had seen it somewhere. On witness asking why Lemm had paid off his ricksha coolie, Lemm said he did not like to have him standing in the rain. Lemm did not remain long in the house on that occasion, and when Lemm left witness spoke seriously to his wife about it. He did not say anything to Lemm because of his child and because his wife protested her innocence. In September, 1900, his wife went to live at Rose Terrace, witness being then sent to England, to bring out the *Choy Sang*, returning in September. Next month he went on a coasting cruise and was absent for three and a half months. When he got back his wife was ill and on the advice of Dr. Jordan he sent her to Chefoo. He knew the second Mrs. Lemm, whom he met while Mrs. Mitchell was away. She was in great grief and made a statement to him and showed him a letter. In consequence of what he was told and what he read he wrote to Mr. Lemm stating that he wished Mr. Lemm to understand that in future they were strangers. He also wrote to his wife. In May, 1904, Mrs. Mitchell came back from Chefoo, but he did not see her. He had not spoken to his wife since he wrote to her, although he had seen her in the street and other places and also in company with Mr. Lemm. He remembered going to Macao in November, 1904, and inspected the hotel register. He saw a certain entry and when he took divorce proceedings he obtained the leaf of the register. Divorce was pronounced. Up to the time he broke off communications with his wife he was on most affectionate terms with her. He brought an action against Mr. Lemm for damages, but owing to

ineffective legislation the case was dismissed. Effective legislation had now come into force and that was the reason he took the present proceedings. He had been able to pay the costs of the divorce proceedings, and he was practically a bankrupt, his bankruptcy being brought about by the liabilities which he had incurred during those proceedings.

Cross-examined by Mr. Slade—His wife was thirty-five years old when she came to the Colony.

Were you on friendly terms with Mr. Lemm up to 1904?—I was never intimately friendly with him, because I did not like the man.

But your terms of friendliness were sufficiently intimate to allow you to ask a favour of him?—No, I never did. I would not like to put myself under an obligation to him. I may have done so during the earlier stages of our acquaintance, but I do not remember.

Questioned with regard to the ricksha incident which he had mentioned, witness replied that he stated it because he considered it a significant fact.

Why are you bringing these proceedings? Simply to get money out of Mr. Lemm, is it not?—I am bringing the action against him because of his relations with my wife. I did not bring the action for any other purpose.

Than what? Than to be remunerated for the loss I had sustained.

And in support of this claim you are putting forward this incident of 1900? I don't quite follow you. I mention this incident to support my opinion of what the man has been doing.

Quite right. Yet you did not consider it sufficiently suspicious at the time to make a remark to Lemm about it?—No, it was hard to judge the man.

His Lordship—Tell me frankly what you want to say about this incident?—I did not think it sufficiently strong to take action and make a scandal over it.

Both Lemm and Mrs. Mitchell come from New South Wales?—Yes.

Do you consider it any harm for fellow countrymen, even if they are of opposite sex to be friendly with one another?—To a certain extent, no.

Are you one of those people who hold the opinion that people of opposite sex should not be friendly?—To a certain extent.

What do you mean by that?—People may be on friendly terms and yet not implicate themselves.

Do you consider it any great harm in a man paying a visit to a friend after dinner? To a lady friend?

Yes? It depends on circumstances.

Is there anything extraordinarily suspicious in a lady calling on a near neighbour, even if he happens to be a man, at 11 o'clock on Sunday morning?—No, but it gets suspicious when the visits continue from 11 o'clock on Sunday morning right through the week.

Have you any knowledge of it?—I have no personal knowledge.

A boy who had been in the service of Mrs. Mitchell spoke to Mr. Lemm staying at the house as a boarder and to Mrs. Mitchell frequently calling at Mr. Lemm's house.

T. Austin, master of the steamer *Wingchai* for some time until she foundered in the typhoon of September, 1906, was called.

You are Thomas Austin?—No, Tom Austin.

Witness then spoke to having seen Mrs. Mitchell and Mr. Lemm on board his steamer when they went to Macao. They usually stayed the night there. He had also seen them together in Hongkong. Once they entered the circus together late and once he saw them in the chemist's together.

You have seen them in Watkin's together?—Yes.

Mr. Slade—How awfully wicked. (Laughter.)

Cross-examined by Mr. Slade—Were they alone?—No. Mrs. Mitchell's daughter was with them.

How old is she?—I don't know. I never ask a girl's age. It is a breach of etiquette.

Can you guess her age?—It is hard to guess a lady's age. They fake themselves up so.

Was she little?—I should say she was about sixteen.

A well-grown girl?—Yes.

Nice looking girl, eh?—Oh, that is a matter of opinion.

I want yours?—Yes, fairly good looking—can pass.

The case was adjourned.

Tuesday, 24th August.

The hearing was continued of the action in which Captain T. A. Mitchell, of the Indo-China Steam Navigation Co., proceeded against John Lemm to recover \$15,000, general moral damages, and \$17,187.23 special damages for money paid and payable in connection with divorce proceedings in Edinburgh.

Sir Henry Berkeley, K.C., instructed by Mr. H. W. Looker (of Messrs. Deacon, Looker and Deacon) appeared for the plaintiff, while the defendant was represented by Mr. M. W. Slade, who was instructed by Mr. P. M. Hodgson (of Messrs. Ewens and Harston).

The jurors were:—

Messrs. E. J. Hughes (foreman), J. W. Bolles, E. Shellim, M. S. Sassoon, M. S. Northcote, G. C. Moxon and E. H. Hinds.

Captain Mitchell, recalled, was further cross-examined by Mr. Slade. He said he was captain of the *Fau Sang* on August 17th, 1903. The letter produced, which was not signed, appeared to be in his handwriting, and he remembered certain circumstances which may have prompted him to write such a letter. In that letter he asked defendant to look after his house, and his wife had given Mr. Lemm a power of attorney.

I put it to you that is a copy of what you wrote to Lemm, made by yourself and given by you to your wife?—That may be.

And that the original was returned to you at your request?—I cannot recollect that.

Mr. Slade then produced a letter dated 8th March, 1904, which witness admitted was in his handwriting. The letter requested Mr. Lemm to return a letter witness gave him, and to note that in future they met as strangers.

Witness then asked, and was granted permission, to explain the circumstances which prompted him to write that letter. When Mrs. Mitchell went to Chefoo in April, 1903, he said, she left instructions with Mr. Lemm to look after her house. She sub-let the house to a man by the name of Keeney, and she did this without consulting witness in the matter at all.

Mr. Slade—I think you told us yesterday that you knew all this before Mrs. Mitchell left Hongkong?—The day she left. I came into port that day.

There was no secret about it?—She told me Mr. Lemm was to collect the rent. In the meantime Mr. and Mrs. Keeney left the house in charge of a man named Logan, who took several people to live there. When this came to my knowledge I was anxious as to whether the furniture in the house would be looked after, and in some way or other I asked Mr. Lemm to give an eye to it.

Besides Mr. Lemm you have accused, have you not, a number of other men of committing adultery with your wife?—I have accused nobody.

Have you accused Mr. Lemm?—I took proceedings against Lemm.

His Lordship—Making people co-respondents is accusing them.

Mr. Slade—Have you made other people co-respondents?—No. Other people were brought into the action.

Have you accused your wife of committing adultery with other people besides Lemm?—No.

What?—When I took those proceedings they were entirely on account of Lemm. In the meantime other knowledge came to me and I took advantage of it.

Therefore, taking advantage of knowledge given to you, you charged your wife of committing adultery with other people?—Purely on account of Mr. Lemm.

Will you answer the question, and don't fence?—Yes.

Remember you are on your oath—I am on my oath and that is why I want to tell the truth.

Don't fence with my question then—There is no fencing at all about it.

How many people besides Lemm?—Three.

Did you take the photograph shown you yesterday?—Photograph of whom?

The one which represented your wife and your daughter?—Certainly not.

And the other, is that your photograph?—No.

And all you can say is they are like the people they represent?—They are the people they represent.

They resemble them?—There is no question about that.

Captain N. G. Major, sworn, said he was a master mariner, and in charge of the steam tug *David Gillies*. He knew Captain and Mrs. Mitchell, and also Mr. John Lemm, whose photograph he recognised. In May, 1900, witness was living at 3, Granville Avenue, Captain and Mrs. Mitchell lived at No. 4, while Mr. Lemm was then living at the end house of the terrace. All the houses in the avenue had balconies, and witness used to see Lemm going to his house almost daily.

From May to September, 1900, did anything attract your attention as Lemm was going along the Avenue?—He always whistled when passing Mrs. Mitchell's house.

What was the result of the whistle?—Mrs. Mitchell used to answer him.

Did you see Mrs. Mitchell?—No, but I heard the whistle.

Sir Henry Berkeley—I will take it this way. He heard an answering whistle.

Witness stated that Mr. Lemm used to go into Mrs. Mitchell's house nearly every evening. At times he came out between ten and eleven p.m., while at other times witness did not remember him leaving at all.

His Lordship—You don't mean to represent that you were sitting on your verandah to watch Mr. Lemm? I may have done it out of curiosity.

Why out of curiosity? I thought it was a thing to arouse anyone's curiosity.

Sir Henry Berkeley—How many occasions have you sat on the verandah?—Pretty often. I could not say the number.

Do you remember being on board the *Prinz Sigismund* on June 21st, 1907?—I took the ship out, but I am not prepared to swear to the date.

Was Mrs. Mitchell on board?—Yes, she was going to Australia.

Mr. Slade—To what portion of the particulars does this refer?

Sir Henry Berkeley—This is after the decree. What I am submitting is this: that for the purpose of showing continued familiarity evidence can be given even after the decree.

Mr. Slade—My friend has had his way now. He has put it to the jury and that is all he wanted.

Sir Henry Berkeley—My friend should not make a suggestion like that.

His Lordship—I will put everything straight to the jury.

Cross-examined by Mr. Slade, witness said he knew that Captain Mitchell took proceedings against his wife for adultery in 1905. He was called to give evidence on commission, and on that occasion he mentioned some of the facts he had now sworn to. He remembered being shown a photograph and asked who it was, and he replied Lemm. When asked if he knew anything about Lemm, he said nothing more than that he was a frequent visitor at Mrs. Mitchell's house. That was because he was not asked.

How many hours were you cross-examined?—Only a few minutes.

Minutes?—Please don't look black at me. I am telling all I know as far as I can remember. I was a very short time under cross-examination.

Your examination in chief took sometime?—About half an hour.

You are a friend of Captain Mitchell's, aren't you?—I am a captain myself.

It's a curious thing that in 1905 you never gave any of the details at all which you have given now?—I was not asked.

Before you gave your evidence in chief you had seen Mr. Deacon, who was acting for Captain Mitchell?—In the usual way, I suppose.

And he had taken your proof?—That is usual, is it not?

Did he take it?—I suppose so. I am not sure.

And he was asking you all you knew about the matter?—I have come here to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth.

His Lordship instructed the witness to answer.

Witness—Please ask the gentleman not to look at me as if he is going to swallow me.

His Lordship—You can look at him as if you were going to swallow him.

Witness—I don't want him to look at me as if I'm telling lies.

Mr. Slade—You certainly did see Mr. Deacon?—All right. We'll say I did.

You did not mention any of these facts to him, did you?—Which facts do you mean?

His Lordship—The facts you have told us about sitting on your verandah.

Witness—No. As I say, I was not asked.

Mr. Slade—But you were asked to tell all you knew?—I'll right.

And you did not mention any of these facts?—I believe I was asked.

Will you answer the question, please?—Let me answer in my own way.

Answer the question first, and you can explain afterwards. I offered to state these facts, but I think it was decided that they were not worth taking down.

Pau Kam Tak deposed to being cook and boy to Mrs. Mitchell at Erani Bungalow, Observatory Road, in 1905. Mr. Lemm was often at her house. He usually called at 7 p.m. and stayed until two and three a.m. There were two sleeping rooms in the house, one Mrs. Mitchell's and the other for Mr. Lemm, in which there was a bed which was not much used. At that time Mr. Lemm lived at 7, Cameron Road.

Did Mr. Lemm ever use this bed in his room to your knowledge?—Yes, and I used to go to his house for sleeping garments.

Continuing, the witness said that when Mr. Lemm got into his pyjamas he went into his own room, but he took his liquors in "the Mrs. room." Mrs. Mitchell was then dressed in a long sleeping dress.

In cross-examination witness stated that there were two sleeping rooms in the house, and Mrs. Mitchell slept in the same room as Miss Mitchell, and in the same bed.

Mr. F. M. Marques, manager of the Boa Vista Hotel, Macao, was shown photographs of Mr. Lemm and Mrs. and Miss Mitchell, which he said he recognised, and stated that the gentleman and the two ladies visited his hotel on October 12th, 1904. They stayed the night, and left on the following day. The names were entered in the hotel register, which he produced. They occupied rooms 9 and 10, and it was possible to pass from one of these rooms to the other by means of the verandah. Mr. Lemm paid the hotel expenses. The same parties paid a second visit to the hotel in December, and occupied rooms 8 and 9.

Witness was cross-examined by Mr. Slade.

Were the entries in your register altered since they were written?—I cannot say when the alteration took place. When I saw the entry it was in the same state as it is now.

Do you remember a half-caste of the name of Ledbury who was in the employ of Captain Mitchell? I am not certain, but I believe I have seen him in Court.

Do you remember him visiting you to inquire about this matter?—I don't remember.

Was it not to him that you gave these particular pages after they were cut out of the register?—No, I handed them to a clerk of Messrs. Deacon, Looker and Deacon.

Continuing, witness said that there were two separate accounts in the names of Lemm and Mitchell, but there was nothing to show by the books who paid, although he knew that Mr. Lemm paid.

Mr. P. A. Pereira, assistant manager of the same hotel, gave corroborative evidence, and the case was adjourned *sine die*.

Wednesday, August 25th.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR FRANCIS PIGOTT (CHIEF JUSTICE).

INSURANCE CLAIM FOR OIL.

The Tung San Wo firm of Shanghai claimed from the Po On Marine Insurance and Godown Company, Limited, of Wing Lok Street, the sum of 7,000 taels said to be due on 35 packages of ground nut oil.

Mr. M. W. Slade, instructed by Mr. R. A. Harding, appeared for the plaintiffs, while the defendants were represented by Sir Henry

Berkeley, K. C., and Mr. D. McNeill, who were instructed by Mr. A. Holborow (of Messrs. Deacon, Looker, and Deacon).

The statement of claim set forth that the plaintiffs were the owners of 350 packages of ground nut oil valued at Tls. 7,000, equal to \$9,722.22, which were shipped by the steamer *Shao Hsing* from Shanghai to Canton, and were insured against total loss by perils of the sea, including risk of craft, until safely landed by the defendant (Co., under a policy of insurance dated 17th July, 1908. Before being landed from a cargo boat the oil was totally lost in the typhoon of 27th and 28th July last year. Plaintiffs paid the premium demanded on the policy, duly notified the defendant company of the loss, and claimed the value thereof, and interest at the rate of eight per cent per annum until payment of judgment.

In the statement of defence the defendants admitted the allegations in the statement of claim, but pleaded that the loss of the oil happened after the expiration of a reasonable and ordinary period from the time it had been placed on the cargo boat for the purpose of landing. Defendants further contended that the oil was not lost by any of the perils during the continuance of any of the risks covered by the policy.

In an amendment to the statement of defence defendants denied certain allegations contained in the statement of claim, and pleaded that the oil referred to in the latter was discharged from the steamer *Shao Hsing* and safely landed at Canton.

In their reply plaintiffs joined issue. They denied that the oil was safely landed in Canton according to the custom of the port, or to the customary meaning given by marine insurers to the words "safely landed" in policies of marine insurance.

Mr. Slade, in opening, informed the Court that the facts in the case were comparatively simple. The oil in question was shipped by one of Messrs. Butterfield and Swire's steamers, the *Shao Hsing*, to Canton. The steamer was made fast to Messrs. Butterfield and Swire's pier on Honan Island, a "T" shaped structure, and there discharged her cargo. The oil in question was native oil, and was packed in baskets lined with oil paper. As a cargo it was liable to leak, because the baskets in which it was packed were somewhat fragile. As Messrs. Butterfield and Swire refused to store oil in their godown, the consignees had to take delivery in cargo boats and store it in one of the only two godowns in the whole port of Canton which would then receive such oil. The process of landing oil was slightly complicated through the necessity of weighing it out of the ship. Oil was weighed before it was put into cargo boats as a check upon the cargo boatmen, who had to deliver the same quantity of oil as they received. The safe landing which the defendants alleged took place in Canton was the temporary deposit of this oil on the wharf on its way from the ship to the cargo boat.

His Lordship—Who pays the wharf charges? Mr. Slade—The ship. It is all included in the freight.

Proceeding, Mr. Slade said the defendants' first line of defence was that they declined to pay the claim because the cases had been safely landed. The next defence was that of delay. They alleged that there was undue delay, and that the cargo was kept in the cargo boat for an unreasonable time. The *Shao Hsing* went alongside the pier on July 23rd, and finished discharging her cargo about midday on the 24th.

Mr. Slade here explained the methods adopted by the Imperial Maritime Customs regarding the landing of dutiable cargo, and remarked that this oil had been passed and was ready for landing on the afternoon of July 25th. A cargo boatman then took it on his boat and went further up the river in the direction of Canton to the Tung Yuen godown, where space had been reserved for it. When the boatman arrived at this godown he found a number of other boats laden with oil from other steamers still anchored in front thereof waiting to discharge, and quickness in discharging depended entirely on the staff of the godown. The landing of oil was a very slow business, and the godown's coolie staff was apparently small for the amount of work which had to be done in busy times. In

spite of the efforts made by the boatman to hurry the godown people in this case, the boat with the oil on board was still lying alongside on the night of July 27th. Next morning the typhoon which visited this Colony reached Canton, and the cargo boat was wrecked and totally lost, together with all her cargo, which included the oil which was the subject matter of this action.

Evidence taken on commission was read, and the hearing adjourned.

Thursday, August 26th.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR MR. H. H. J.
GOMPERTZ (PUISNE JUDGE).

COMPLICATED CLAIMS.

Four cases were called on in each of which the Kwong Cheung firm were plaintiffs. In the first action they claimed from the Sze Li Lung firm \$392.52 as balance due for goods sold and delivered; in the second action they claimed from the Kwong Wo firm \$805.81 as balance due for goods sold; in the third action the defendants were the Sang Lung firm and Chiu Yat Kai, and the amount claimed for balance due on goods was \$175.14; the fourth claim was against Chiu Yat Kai for \$513.68 for money had and received.

The plaintiffs in each case were represented by Mr. Hinds (of Messrs. Brutton and Hett), while in the last two cases Mr. P. W. Goldring (of Messrs. Goldring, Barlow and Morrell) appeared for the defendants.

His Lordship asked if the actions could be taken together.

Mr. Goldring said the partners in the different firms were mixed up.

Mr. Hinds did not agree with this statement. The defendant Chiu Yat Kai was at one time manager of the plaintiff firm, but ceased to hold that position about the beginning of the year 1908. The management was then taken over by another man, who, on going through the books, discovered that a considerable sum of money was owing to the plaintiffs from the other firms. The defendant mentioned, it appeared, had been supplying these firms with goods for which he did not charge.

His Lordship—Does not all that prove that the defendant is a material witness for the other firms? You have got only your clients' side of the case.

Mr. Hinds—We have more than that. At the end of last Chinese year my clients sent an account to Chiu Yat Kai.

His Lordship asked Mr. Goldring if he was applying for an adjournment.

Mr. Goldring said he was, and was quite willing to pay the costs. The defendant, Chiu Yat Kai, filed his petition in bankruptcy on the previous day, so in those circumstances he thought that action should stand over pending the bankruptcy proceedings.

Mr. Hinds strenuously objected to any adjournment. The cases had been running on since the middle of June.

His Lordship—Have you seen this (produced) declaration?

Mr. Hinds—It was served on us this morning. Had it been served yesterday we should have proceeded to arrest Chiu Yat Kai as an absconding debtor in order to have him here this morning. He was the plaintiff in an original action in which he sued thirteen other partners for dissolution, and also applied for a receiver. His Lordship the Chief Justice dismissed the application, and also hinted that the case was founded on a very flimsy foundation.

Mr. Goldring intimated that what the Chief Justice said was that there was a question in the partnership articles as to whether or not, in the event of a disagreement between partners, the majority should not be able to buy out any one partner at a price to be agreed. It was quite an open question as to how far the partnership agreement and the original articles were binding on the defendant. He understood there was a lot of bad blood in the whole affair, for as soon as the action for dissolution was started, these summary actions followed.

Mr. Hinds stated that until within the last few days the defendants had never suggested that they had any possible defence. Two days ago he received a letter from Mr. Goldring

asking if he had any objection to referring the matter to the Court translator, as the question was mainly one of account. Then plaintiffs received a declaration stating that defendant had a defence on the merits. The declaration and the letter were inconsistent. The defendant had during the whole proceedings shown himself to be a very slippery customer, and the speaker did not believe that his mother was really ill, as he intimated.

His Lordship—Nevertheless, I don't see why, if your clients get the costs of the day, they are damaged. Would another week make any difference?

Mr. Hinds—The defendant has filed his petition in bankruptcy, and we don't know exactly what will happen.

His Lordship adjourned the case until Thursday, and allowed plaintiffs costs of the day.

A CLAIM ADMITTED.

Action was brought by the Yue Hang Cheong firm against the Cheung Wo firm to recover \$327.55 balance due for goods sold and delivered.

Mr. Hinds (of Messrs. Brutton and Hett) appeared for the plaintiffs, Mr. M. Reader Harris (of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist) appeared for the defendants.

Mr. Harris informed the Court that the claim was for goods sold and delivered against a shop which had been burnt down. The defendants, however, promised to pay as soon as they got the money from the Insurance Co. Plaintiffs would not allow time, but brought this action.

It transpired that defendants had paid the amount of claim, without costs, into Court, and then the manager of the firm had left the Colony.

His Lordship remarked that in the circumstances there was no necessity to give judgment, the defendants having admitted liability by paying the amount into Court.

MANSLAUGHTER OR ASSAULT?

An interesting case has been before Mr. Hazeland at the Magistracy for two days in which a lukong stands charged with the manslaughter of a hawker, whom he is alleged to have struck with his truncheon on July 29th. The man died shortly afterwards in the hospital. The point arose as to whether the death of the hawker was brought about by the blows received or whether it was due to other causes. His Worship remarked that if in his opinion the blow had nothing to do with the death of the man and that the deceased was simply assaulted he would not send him for trial. Mr. P. W. Goldring, who appeared for the prosecution, then stated that he would like to add a subsidiary charge of assault, and, his Worship agreeing, this was done. The evidence of Dr. Shore, R. N., who had been in charge of the public mortuary, was that the death of the deceased was not the result of the blows said to have been struck him on the body. The deceased was in a bad condition, suffering from strangulated hernia, and in the opinion of the doctor the blows did not cause death, although they might have hastened it. Mr. Frank Browne, Government analyst, stated that he examined the contents of the deceased's stomach and found traces of opium. It frequently happened that traces of opium were found when the larger quantity had been absorbed. Two grains, the amount which he found in the stomach, would not be a fatal dose. The case was remanded.

A BOYCOTT OF THE BRITISH ON THE YANGTSE.

The threatened boycott at Kiukiang against British ships and goods (in connection with the dismissed charge of manslaughter against Mr. Mears) has actually begun. Informants of the N.-C. Daily News state that already the vessels of the China Merchants fleet, and those of the German and Japanese Companies had reaped advantages by increased passengers and freight. Naturally, of course, the steamers of the China Merchants Co. are in the most favoured position and have had the bulk of the trade offering, but British ships are said already to have severely felt the effects of the boycott, as far as Chinese passengers and shipments were concerned. Meetings have been held at Kiukiang, at one of which it was resolved to begin the boycott on Tuesday last.

FREE TRADE BETWEEN AMERICA AND THE PHILIPPINES.

ITS EFFECT ON HONGKONG SHIPPING.

There has naturally been a good deal of curiosity in Hongkong, where the transshipment of American cargo for the Philippine Islands has heretofore been a considerable, albeit a fast declining business, to learn whether the new Tariff Law of the United States bears in any way on this practice. It does. The new law puts an end to the transshipment of American cargo at Hongkong for the Philippine Islands, for one of the provisions of the law states that to obtain free entry into the Philippine Islands of goods that are the product of the United States they must be shipped by a continuous voyage in one bottom on a through bill of lading from the country of origin to the country of destination.

Consequently there is an end to the transshipment at Hongkong of cargo from the United States for the Philippine Islands. We have no idea of the proportions of this business, but since liners have been running from the Pacific coast of America to Manila, it is doubtless a very much smaller feature of the transshipment trade of Hongkong than it was half a dozen years ago. Still, the amount of American cargo—flour especially—which has been transhipped here into the steamers plying between this port and the Philippines—especially Cebu, Iloilo and Zamboanga—has been considerable, for it has been possible to carry cargo, say, to Iloilo and Zamboanga by transshipment here, cheaper than if it had been carried direct to Manila and there transhipped into steamers employed in the coastwise trade. Now that this will no longer be worth doing, since the right to free entry would be forfeited, new shipping developments are to be expected. This law practically makes it necessary that all the liners and freighters running between the Pacific Coast of America and Asiatic ports shall make Manila the terminal port of call, and consequently the steamers on the Hongkong-Manila run will lose passengers as well as freight.

The free entry provisions of the new Tariff went into effect on August 5th. Certain other provisions of the law do not go into effect until October 4th. Goods shipped from the United States after August 5th and which arrive in the Philippine Islands prior to October 4th by a continuous voyage in one bottom on a through bill of lading can have free entry without production of a certificate of origin, by putting up a bond for later production of such certificate. Goods that arrive after October 4th must be accompanied by certificates of origin.

Goods that arrived in the Philippine Islands prior to August 5th and were in bond there can be removed from bond at any time prior to September 6th on proof being furnished that they are American goods, that is to say, the growth, product or manufacture of the United States, and that they came through by continuous voyage in one bottom on a through bill of lading.

No Consular invoices are required to be executed in the United States for goods coming to the Philippine Islands from United States,

THE MANILA OPIUM CASE.

To avoid arrest on a warrant issued by the court, William Kennedy, the well-known local Chinese banker, surrendered himself. He was released on bail in the amount of P7,500. The other Chinaman who is charged with illegal importation in this same case is now in Hongkong. He was formerly in the city police department and went to Hongkong in connection with an attempt to put a stop to the illegal importation that was being carried on from that port.

No complaints have been filed as yet against the other two Americans who are under surveillance. One of these, says a Manila paper, is now in Hongkong.

In view of the fact that one of the persons already arrested has made an offer to turn State's evidence and to peach on his co-partners in the illegal importation, there is a considerable uneasiness among all those concerned, and it is believed that some startling information will be in condition for publication in a few days.

NOTES FROM JAPAN.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Tokyo, August 15th.

THE ULTIMATUM.

The situation which has arisen between Japan and China regarding the reconstruction of the Antung-Mukden Light Railway seems to have been viewed much more seriously abroad than in Japan itself. In Peking, reports say, the highest authorities were in ignorance as to what was going on in Manchuria until the eve of receipt of the ultimatum. This is a peculiar report, but, considering how decentralised China's diplomatic affairs always are, not incredible, for what takes place in Mukden is not always according to instructions from Peking. It may, moreover, easily be a piece of bluff to enable China to back out gracefully from an impossible position created by the officials in Manchuria, as in this particular instance right appears to be on Japan's side and might being there also there is little fear for the outcome. Such is the view taken unanimously by the Tokyo Press, there being no disposition to regard the matter in the light of a "crisis," as the situation is evidently viewed abroad, judging from telegrams.

PUBLIC SUPPORT OF THE GOVERNMENT.

The Japanese public welcome this evidence of the Government's determination to force the hand of China. What is termed Japan's weak and conciliatory diplomacy in Chinese and American questions has long been a grievance of the Press and of political parties, and had the Ministry shown the least weakness in handling the Antung question its existence would have been jeopardised. A surer sign of approval of the Government's policy has been the steady upward movement of the share market during this month. To-day it is firmer than it has been for two years past, despite sugar scandals, etc., and this tone has been reinforced by the lowering of the Bank of Japan rate on Friday. In this connection it is stated that now the U. S. tariff revision is accomplished it is clear no change will be caused to Japanese trade in America. Trade all round will experience steady development. The only factor, says an official of the Bank, which prevented the lowering of the rate, besides the uncertainty with regard to the American tariff, was the situation vis-a-vis China, but there being every hope that all problems will be amicably solved, coupled with the favourable forecast for the rice and sericultural crops, the anxiety of the authorities concerning the money market has been brought to an end, and hence the lowering of the rate.

CHINA'S REPLY TO THE ULTIMATUM.

According to a long Peking dispatch to the *Jiji*, dated the 11th inst., the *National Review*, said to be a Chinese official organ published in English at Shanghai, contains a copy of telegraphic instructions sent to the various Chinese Ministers in Europe and America explaining China's attitude in the Antung-Mukden dispute. In this document it is claimed Japan is the real cause of the delay in the negotiations. After reading the document one can only come to the conclusion that if such instructions have really been sent to the Chinese Ministers abroad they will only serve to complicate the foreign view of what, after all, is a not very important question in itself. One country charges the other with lack of sincerity and the other retaliates with "you're another!" The whole of the negotiations are truly Oriental in their intricacy and petty subterfuge. Japan's attitude is approved by England; she has diplomatic right on her side, and the power to enforce her demands. Under these circumstances she is going on with the work. If treaties are of any value, there has never been any question about the matter, but as the business in Europe and America has been considered a "crisis" the Tokyo Government will get all the more credit for coming out of it scatheless.

THE SHIPPING OUTLOOK.

Toyo Kisen Kaisha shares, 50 yen paid up, touched low-water mark during the week, being quoted at 13 yen. Reports of continuous losses and misfortunes have worked havoc with this stock, and one or two bright journals, acting on the policy of "hit him while he's down," have suggested another sugar scandal. This alarmist attitude is not uncommon after the experiences

of the past year, but there is absolutely no ground to account for the unfortunate position of the T.K.K. on any other basis than that of trade depression, and, perhaps, a lack of foresight in management. The directors must plead guilty to having three years ago, during a time of great activity but on the eve of the American panic and universal depression, greatly expanded their fleet and incurred heavy liabilities which they now cannot meet. The *Chiyo* and *Tenyo* may be fine vessels, but they are not yet wanted on the Pacific. The *Shanmut*, *Dakota* and other white elephants marked the beginning of a series of huge steamers, none of which has ever paid. Meanwhile the trim 3,000 tonner of the "Empress" type, which were earning dividends before these huge vessels were laid down, are still at it and will be good for another ten years. The lesson is there to be learned. The Pacific is not likely to have the same trade as the Atlantic for another generation, for although there may be twice the population in China and Japan compared to Europe, the economic value of the two is the very reverse and there is comparatively little tourist traffic. All the Government interference in business that is so common in this country has not saved two of the leading shipping companies, the T. K. K. and Osaka Shosen Kaisha, from getting into deep water. Despite the experience of the past few years the latter company is now committed to the expansion policy with six 6,000 ton steamers on hand, which are most likely to be a weight round the necks of shareholders. The trade may come which will make these large steamers profitable, but at present most of them return from America in ballast. It will take years to recover lost ground. The O. S. K. holds a strong position in the domestic and China coasting trades, and to have concentrated attention on this trade should have been its policy instead of entering into direct competition with the T. K. K. and N. Y. K. in a business already overdone.

With regard to the affairs of the T.K.K., over four hundred shareholders met on Thursday, when Mr. Asano made a statement of the company's business. A committee of investigation has cleared Mr. Asano of the imputation of having misused the funds of the company. At the meeting a shareholder criticised Mr. Asano for building a palatial private residence, when the president replied that this was necessary for the reception of foreign guests and others who have business relations with the company. The plague spot in Japanese business was here touched upon—the inability of a Japanese to do business in a business-like way; the ever-present atmosphere of bribery, be it in the way of social entertainment, geisha, etc., or in actual money giving. This cause will be found at the root of the misfortunes of most Japanese companies.

THE RAILWAY BOARD.

The railways of the country, having been put under control of a department of the Government and by the public verdict not having been improved by the process, are being wrapped closely in the official mantle. Despite frequent accidents, great and small, the revelations of mismanagement and corruption at certain stations, and of collusion between railway servants and transportation agencies, defects all crying for drastic remedy, it was recently reported that officials of the rank of stationmaster and upwards should be privileged to wear swords. This was one item in a series of official regulations, in which the rank of officials and many other things having little relation to the running of railways were set forth. The subject is indeed one fit for ridicule, when we take into consideration the mismanagement of the railways and the poverty of the railway equipment and stations, facts which strike such people as foreign tourists most painfully on landing in the country. Yet time is found to consider the important question whether the overworked and underpaid official, whose mightiest instrument is a pen, shall add to his dignity with a clanking sword! It is said that this idea has been abandoned, but surely the fact that it has been simmering in the brain of officialdom is the clearest proof of the unfitness of such people to conduct the railway business.

ASAKUSA AND THE CINEMATOPHGRAPH.

Asakusa Park, its Temple and show-places, is the great centre of attraction for the Edo-ko, its haven of delight for country people, and

a resort that no foreigner regrets visiting. Of late years a remarkable change has come over the nature of the attractions of Asakusa and for the change the cinematograph is responsible. Formerly, everything extraordinary in animal life, the monster caught in the sea, the demon of the forest, every conceivable monstrosity and absurdity, was a nine-days' wonder at Asakusa. Pokey little shows to which five sen was charged for admission have made way for large showy theatres which are crowded daily from morn to night, in heat insufferable and darkness impenetrable, and the performances here are worthy of serious attention. About half-a-dozen of these houses exist, each capable of holding from a thousand to two thousand persons, and as I have visited them both day and night, on holidays and workdays, I can testify to the good business done by the management. Fortunes are being made out of the cinematograph. In one theatre some popular Japanese novel is thrown on the screen, and as the lifelike scene is acted a man with a book reads the story, the whole being intensely interesting. There is nothing objectionable in such a representation, but the same cannot be said of the other houses in which foreign pictures are exhibited. Here it may be said that the cinematograph is a perverter of the truth and pandering to the lowest taste. Outside these buildings are huge coloured prints or paintings depicting the scenes within, and these illustrations are a nauseous catalogue of blood and murder. It must be said they are not exclusively foreign representations, for some deal with Japanese incidents, quite as bloodthirsty, but it is to the foreign specimens I wish to draw attention. Here is such a representation of foreign life that must increase the low opinion the mass of Japanese have always had of the foreigner. This opinion, due to isolation, ignorance and prejudice, might be much modified by the proper use of the cinematograph, but what sort of representations are given? Scenes, specially acted for the cinematograph, of condensed villainy with a mixture of antic love, in which some well-dressed mannikin excites the ridicule and contempt of a Japanese audience; freak photographs, where a railway train will double up, fall into a river, and suddenly resume its proper position; the basest passions amidst the most effete luxury. These things come from Paris, and the films I have seen are just as used at home, with explanations in English and French that no one in an Asakusa audience could understand. And it is more than probable that they can understand very little of the pictures, which is perhaps fortunate.

WHAT THE PUBLIC WANT.

Now if the Japanese public demanded these distorted pictures of foreign life, it would be little use arguing against them. But in nine cases out of ten the Japanese goes to the show simply to see the cinematograph at work with an open mind to see the moving picture, and his taste is as yet entirely undeveloped. But if he has any taste in the matter it is not for misrepresentation, depravity, and distortion of life. To anyone who knows the Japanese, they are intensely interested in foreign countries, in their scenery, cities, buildings and people. Only one such moving picture have I seen at Asakusa, and that was of Niagara in winter-time, the grandeur and reality of which provoked the applause of the audience. Such interest is never aroused by a freak photograph, and positive repulsion is the feeling aroused in the average Japanese by ridiculously exaggerated love scenes. From beginning to end these shows are a very harmful misrepresentation of foreign life, for it is not foreign life. To my mind, a great opportunity to enlighten the mass of Japanese as to our respective countries is being missed. The cinematograph is the most popular of public entertainers to-day, and I believe that, even from a business point of view, nothing would pay so much as pictures true to life and giving the best of the life of the peoples in other countries. The Japanese are thirsting for such knowledge, and the instrument that is capable of doing so much in this direction; that could be an ambassador of peace above all others, is prostituted to representations which, if they are not simply ridiculous and accepted as such, are representative of only the very dregs of life.

COMPANY MEETING. HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

HALF-YEARLY MEETING.

The ordinary half-yearly meeting of shareholders in the above Corporation was held at the City Hall on Aug. 21st, under the chairmanship of the Hon. Mr. W. J. Gresson. Others present were:—Messrs. E. G. Barrett, J. W. Bandow, H. E. Tomkins, R. Shewan, C. R. Lenzmann, W. Helms, C. S. Gubbay, H. A. W. Slade, E. Shellim, H. A. Siebs (directors), J. R. M. Smith (chief manager), Hon. Mr. Murray Stewart, and Messrs. W. Dunbar, L. Berindoague, W. E. Clarke, J. M. E. Machado, Ho Fook, W. H. Purcell, A. Findlay Smith, A. H. Ough, W. H. Wickham, Ho Kom Tong, T. F. Hough, P. C. Potts, W. H. Potts, J. W. C. Bonnar, H. N. Mody, J. Barton, R. Mitchell, H. Percy Smith, T. I. Rose, J. Cox Edwards, N. H. M. Namazee, F. Paget Hett, S. G. Michael, R. H. Crofton, N. J. Stabb, A. F. Warrack, T. M. Knott, F. G. Carroll, H. C. Joass, W. Taylor, P. de C. Morris, A. Forbes, W. C. Turner, A. Bryer, Lau Pun Chin, Chin Tong, and Wong Leung Him.

The Chief Manager having read the notice convening the meeting,

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen,—In laying before you the statement of accounts for the past half year, I am unable to report any marked improvement in the demand for money for trade requirements; ease has been the prevailing tone of the money markets throughout, and it has been a matter of some difficulty to find profitable and suitable employment for all the funds at our disposal. Under these somewhat adverse banking conditions, your Directors feel assured that the result attained will be received with general satisfaction. Your Directors recommend payment of the usual dividend of £2 per share, and the carrying forward to the current half-year of an amount similar to that brought in from last account. In addition to this we propose placing \$7½ lacs to the Silver Reserve Fund, and in thus adhering to old traditions, by continuing to strengthen our position, I am confident we may look for your support and approval. (Applause.) It is not my intention to detain you on this occasion with a long statement. It is the usual custom for banks only to hold meetings annually, and, though our Deed of Settlement calls for a meeting of shareholders twice a year, I think the one held in August should be mainly confined to passing the accounts, leaving a review of trade and business generally to be made at our meeting in February, when fuller data are available. However, before turning to the statement of Assets and Liabilities, you will perhaps allow me to refer briefly to the subject. We are still waiting for the long expected turn of the tide. It cannot be said that trade in the Far East is yet in a flourishing condition, but there is promise of improvement in some directions, and I see no cause for taking a pessimistic view. On the contrary, news from India of the climatic conditions, upon which particularly in that country so much depends, is favourable; silk crops in both China and Japan are reported to be well up to, if not above, the average; and new life has been infused into the Straits Settlements by the success attending the cultivation of rubber, a product which bids fair to become a valuable and I hope, a permanent addition to the exports of that region. These factors must all have a beneficial effect on the import trade, which has been in a more or less depressed state for a long time past, and, needless to say, any improvement will be welcomed by all who are interested in Eastern commerce. Coming now to the statement of accounts, you will notice that our Note Circulation shows, as usual at this season, a considerable reduction from the higher total which always rules just before the Chinese New Year, while the amount of dollars deposited with the Government, as security, remains unaltered. Silver deposits and current accounts are some \$17 millions over the figures which appeared in the balance sheet last June, and nearly \$5 millions higher than on 31st December, which is largely attributable to money being temporarily placed in the Bank, pending renewed activity in trade. Bills payable are

\$15 lacs lower than in December, but a similar amount higher than in June. Fixed deposits in gold are practically unchanged, but gold current accounts show a decrease of some £2,800,000, being about the amount mentioned at our last meeting as proceeds of the loans temporarily held by our London Office. This is reflected on the other side of the account by an almost equal reduction in Bills Receivable, as compared with the total on 31st December. At that date the amount stood at a much higher figure than on any previous occasion, which was chiefly due to the large amount of homeward remittances carried by our London Office instead of rediscounted. Cash and Bullion in hand and in transit, together, show an increase of \$2½ millions; Bills Discounted, Loans, and Credits stand at \$113 millions, as against \$120 millions on 31st December and \$109 millions on 30th June. Indian Government Rupee Paper, and Consols, Colonial, and other Investments, are lower than last half-year, but some \$3,000,000 over the figures of a year ago. The only other matter that I have to refer to is the opening of our own office in Canton. It has been apparent, for some time, that railway and other business interests there called for further local banking facilities, and you will see from the report that a Branch Office of the Bank was established on the 6th of last month. I have no doubt that, in time, it will prove a valuable addition to our list of Agencies. If any shareholder wishes to ask any questions, I shall be pleased to answer them.

There being no questions,

The CHAIRMAN said—Before moving the adoption of the Report and Accounts, there is a subject to which I think you would like me to refer, though it is not one that affects the accounts now before us. You have no doubt noticed the announcement that on behalf of the Bank your Directors have agreed to subscribe \$50,000 to the proposed Hongkong University conditionally upon the full amount required for the Endowment Fund being forthcoming. Without desiring to enter into the controversy as to the desirability of a University at all, I would point out that the proposition has been most favourably received by the Chinese, including the highest officials not only in Canton but also in Peking, as is demonstrated by the way they have come forward with subscriptions, and if you will reflect on the position held by the Bank in China and its intimate financial relations with the Chinese Imperial Government for so many years, I am sure you will recognise that we have acted in the best interests of the Bank and will approve of our action accordingly. (Applause.) I now move that the report and accounts as presented be adopted.

Mr. DUNBAR said—I have much pleasure in seconding the adoption of the report and accounts. The balance sheet reflects great credit on the management of the Bank, for during these dull times it can be no easy task, and I am sure shareholders must feel highly pleased at the disposition made of profits and will cordially approve of the donation to the proposed university.

On the motion of Mr. A. H. OUGH, seconded by Mr. W. H. WICKHAM, the election of Mr. J. W. Bandow as a director was confirmed.

The CHAIRMAN—That is all the business, gentlemen. Thank you for your attendance. Dividend warrants will be ready on Monday.

HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK COMPANY.

The ordinary half-yearly meeting of shareholders in the above Company was held on Aug. 23rd in the offices at Queen's Building. The Hon. Mr. W. J. Gresson presided, and there were also present:—Sir Paul Chater, Messrs. H. P. White, D. W. Craddock, W. Helms, J. W. Bandow, E. G. Barrett, S. Silverstone, H. A. Siebs (directors), W. Wilson (Acting General Manager), G. A. Caldwell (Acting Secretary), H. W. Slade, J. W. C. Bonnar, R. Mitchell, A. V. Apcar, J. P. Braga, H. Percy Smith, W. E. Clarke, J. Cox Edwards, H. G. White, A. Ough, D. Macdonald, E. C. Wilks, T. I. Rose, W. H. Wickham, J. A. Chinoy, Choa Leep Chee, Ho Fook, K. Sayce, Ho In, Cheung Pui Kai, N. M. E. Namazee, and Chan Sui Ki. The Acting Secretary having read the notice convening the meeting,

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen,—The report and accounts having been in your hands for some time, with your permission, I will follow the usual custom and take them as read. Your Directors regret the unsatisfactory result of the six months' working, the profit earned being less than for any period since the latter half of 1889. This unfortunate result may be attributed to the keen competition now experienced, and the consequent narrowing of margins of profits, also to the prevailing depression in the shipping trade. The total tonnage of merchant ships and men-of-war docked during the period under review shows a falling off of some 165,000 tons as against the previous half-year. The net profits for the six months ended 30th June 1909, amount to \$76,609.93, as compared with \$261,981.53 for the previous half-year and \$274,577.68 for the corresponding period of 1908. Including the balance of \$387,078.77 brought forward from last account, and deducting Directors' and Auditors' fees, we have available for appropriation the sum of \$420,162.36, out of which your Directors propose, subject to your approval, to pay a dividend for the half-year of 3 per cent., or \$1.50 per share, absorbing \$75,000.00, and carry forward the balance, \$345,162.36 to new account. Certain instalments having been received on account of work in progress, the item "sundry creditors" is higher by some \$90,000.00 than in the last account, while "sundry debtors" is less by some \$95,000.00. The value of material on hand shows a further reduction of about \$66,000.00. The whole of the Company's buildings, docks and plant have been kept up in a state of thorough working order, and the addition of a few up-to-date machine tools at Kowloon Dock will increase the efficiency of the establishment. It has been necessary to relay the permanent way throughout the yard at Kowloon, substituting heavier rails for those previously in use, which experience proved to be too light; the cost, \$7,853, has been paid for out of revenue. Reorganization.—Since we last met we have received Mr. Dyer's report and after careful consideration of his recommendations, some progress has been made which, your Directors trust, will in the future result in the more economical working of the Company, and, at the same time, by greater efficiency and the adoption of more modern methods in our system of book-keeping and allocation of departmental charges, enable us with greater accuracy to arrive at the actual cost of production of all articles turned out at our works, and thus place us in a better position to compete for all work that may be offering. Mr. Mitchell, a very old servant of the Company, tendered his resignation, which was accepted, and he left the Colony in April last. Your late Secretary, Mr. Rose, had an agreement running on until November, 1911: this has, by mutual consent, been cancelled, by a payment to Mr. Rose, with which we trust, he is satisfied, and that you, gentlemen, will approve of our action in this matter. To replace the gentleman just referred to, we have engaged as Chief Manager Mr. Robert Morton Dyer for a period of three years, with our option of renewing for a further two years. Mr. Dyer will select and engage, on terms agreed upon by your Directors, a Secretary who is thoroughly conversant with the book-keeping, time-keeping and costing of a ship-building or engineering business. In the accounts before you under this heading you will observe that there has been an expenditure of \$37,777.34. This includes Mr. Dyer's salary and expenses for coming out and reporting on the affairs of the Company, the payment to Mr. Rose referred to, and Mr. Mitchell's passage money to England. Now, gentlemen, you may well feel anxious to know in what way you are to benefit by this expenditure. It is proposed to move the Head Office over to Kowloon, retaining on this side in less costly premises one senior and one junior clerk, with the compradore and staff. It is considered that a great deal of the work hitherto done in the Hongkong office is superfluous, and that by the amalgamation a considerable saving will be effected. There are also several changes contemplated in the management of the various docks, all tending towards economy, and we have in view a reduction in expenditure of from £5,000, to £5,500 per annum. The only further known payment is

that of some \$25,000, for lengthening and providing increased office accommodation in the present drawing office at Kowloon, but as this is a permanent improvement, it can properly be added to the book value of Kowloon Dock. There is one further matter to which I must refer, and that is the valuation of our stock. Your new manager is of opinion that it is necessary to write down values as they at present stand in our books, they having hitherto been based on cost. Your Directors, recognising that this is a matter of primary importance, have arranged with Mr. Finlay Miller to go through the stock in conjunction with our new store-keeper recently arrived from England, and value it item by item. This is now in progress but, as you will readily understand, it is a big undertaking and must necessarily occupy time. In the past stock has only been valued at the end of each year. We regret not having the figures to place before you at this meeting, but on Mr. Dyer's return in October next they will be submitted to him, and I promise you, should any adjustment be found necessary, it will be carried out before we come before you with our accounts to the 31st December next. Since Mr. Mitchell's departure, Mr. Wilson has been acting as Chief Manager, and your Directors inform you with regret that he has made up his mind to retire in a few months' time. I gladly take this opportunity of thanking Mr. Wilson for the whole-hearted way he has carried on the work, and to wish him good health and prosperity wherever he may elect to settle. Gentlemen, I have endeavoured to make the position clear to you, but should any shareholder require further information, I shall be pleased to afford it to the best of my ability.

There being no questions,

The CHAIRMAN proposed the adoption of the report and accounts as presented.

Mr. SLADE—I regret that the report which I have now the pleasure to second is not a more satisfactory one, but I do not think anyone can have looked for anything better. The depression in trade and the keen competition which we have had to encounter are evidenced by the deficiency of 165,000 tons of tonnage entering the Docks as compared with last half-year. I hope, however, that this may prove the Company's low water mark and that from now on we may see a gradual but continued improvement. I am led to this hope by what has been told us regarding the reorganisation scheme. I myself, like many other shareholders, thought this scheme should have been brought forward some years ago, and we might now have been in a better position than we are to-day, but now that it has been entered into I am glad to find that the Board has taken it up so thoroughly. Economies to the extent of from £5,000 to £5,500 per annum are already in view, and I hope that when Mr. Dyer comes back and settles down to his work he will be able to increase these economies and at the same time maintain and possibly improve the efficiency of the Docks. The Chairman has referred to the question of stock. This is an item which bulks very largely in our balance sheet, standing at \$1,250,000 odd. I am sure it is a wise thing to have a thorough revolution of this, but I hope the Chairman's remarks do not portend the appropriation of any large sum out of the profits of this half-year for the purpose of writing down values. One of the results of our re-organisation scheme has been the retirement of certain members of our staff. I think you will all agree with me, gentlemen, when I say that we appreciate most highly the valuable services they have rendered us for many years past. At the same time, I should like to welcome our new chief manager, Mr. Dyer, and to wish him every success in the extremely arduous task which he has undertaken. I have much pleasure in seconding the adoption of the report and accounts.

The motion was carried.

The CHAIRMAN—Thank you for your attendance, gentlemen. Dividend warrants will be ready to-morrow.

SHANGHAI COTTON SPINNING COMPANY.

The first annual general meeting of the Shanghai Cotton Spinning Company was held last week at the offices of the Mitsui Bussan

Kaisha, No. 49, Szechuen Road. There were present: Messrs. M. Fujise (Chairman), H. Robertson, C. E. Roach, H. E. Morris, A. Woods, Yin Sih Chang, D. Hatabu, K. Ono, Soo Pao-san, Cheh Chao-chow, Chui Li-shan, J. Morita, K. Ohara, Hsing-sheng, Hsi Chin-liu and Wang Chen-po, representing 6,805 shares.

The CHAIRMAN said: Gentlemen—The report and accounts of the company have been in your hands for some time and with your permission I will take them as read. You will see that the profit on the working account amounts to Tls. 183,853.76, and the balance at credit of profit and loss account, including balance brought from two old companies amalgamated, to Tls. 171,956.26. Out of the net profit your directors propose to write off Tls. 22,676.00 from the book value of buildings and furniture: to pay a dividend at the rate of Tls. 7.50 per share, absorbing Tls. 125,070.00; and to carry forward to new account the balance, Tls. 24,200.26. This result may be considered satisfactory, but before asking you to adopt and pass the report and accounts, I wish to make a few remarks. The yarn market has, on the whole, been active during the period covered by this report, enabling us to work both mills day and night throughout, and we hope that the continued activity of demand for yarn may bring about the same satisfactory result for next year, notwithstanding the high price of the raw material now ruling over the market. Constant care has been bestowed on improvements to the machinery, some eighty thousand taels having been spent for renewal and repairs since January last year. I am fully confident that its value has been increased so that we need not apportion any money for the depreciation thereof.

As you are aware, we are issuing the balance of authorized capital representing 3,324 shares of Shanghai Taels fifty each at par, exclusively to existing shareholders, as your directors consider it advisable to do so in the best interests of the company. If any shareholders wish to put any questions I shall be pleased to answer, them to the best of my ability.

There being no questions, the following resolutions were put to the meeting and carried unanimously:—

Proposed by the CHAIRMAN and seconded by Mr. H. ROBERTSON: That the report and accounts, as presented, be accepted and passed.

Proposed by the CHAIRMAN and seconded by Mr. ROACH: That a dividend of Tls. 7.50 per share be paid.

Mr. Horatio Robertson was elected a director, and Mr. C. E. Roach was elected auditor.

On the motion of Mr. ROACH and seconded by Mr. SOO PAO-SUN, it was resolved that the staff be given a bonus, to be arranged by the directors.

Votes of thanks were passed to the general agents, the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha, and to the manager, Mr. M. Fujise.

COMPANY REPORT.

CHINA LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY, LTD.

The report for presentation to the shareholders at the eighth ordinary general meeting to be held on Saturday, 11th September, reads as follows:—

Annexed we have the pleasure to lay before shareholders, Statements of accounts for eleven months ending 31st July last.

The balance at credit of Profit and Loss account is \$446,483.42, which it is proposed to deal with as follows, viz.:—To place to reserve fund \$400,000.00, and carry forward to next account \$46,483.42.

The concession for lighting Canton together with the factory, property and material there, were sold to the Ta Ching Kwang Tung Electric Supply Co., for \$1,330,000.00. Payment was completed on 31st July, to which date the present accounts are made up.

It is obvious from comparing the figures of the last account with those now laid before you that, owing to circumstances beyond our control, we were losing ground at Canton and, in view of this and other considerations, we decided to avail ourselves of the opportunity of disposing of this branch of the business at what we

consider a fair price. We shall now have to devote all our attention to the development of the Kowloon Factory.

Capital.—It is not proposed to pay a dividend, but to make a return of Capital to the extent of \$5.00 per share, or \$500,000.00 out of funds in hand, but this cannot be done until the necessary resolutions, which are now being drawn up, have been passed and the consent of the court obtained.

Consulting Committee.—In accordance with the articles of association Sir Paul Chater, C.M.G., Dr. J. W. Noble, and H. P. White, Esq., retire, but offer themselves for re-election.

Auditors.—The accounts have been audited by Messrs. W. H. Potts and A. O'D. Gourdin, who are recommended for re-election.

SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, 28th August, 1909.

Statement of accounts for the 11 months ending 31st July, 1909:—

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.	
Auditors' fees	\$ 200.00
Consulting committee's fees	1,375.00
Exchange (loss on subsidiary coins)	8,482.15
Interest	31,834.74
General charges	3,905.47
Amount written off as depreciation	14,161.36
Amount written off as bad debts	3,729.22
Prem. on 5,000 debentures issued at \$90 and paid off at \$100	50,000.00
Balance	446,483.42
	<hr/> \$560,171.36
Balance from last account	\$61,138.51
Contracting department	174.88
Balance of working account	88,650.62
Balance proceeds sale of Canton property, franchise and goodwill	410,207.35
	<hr/> \$560,171.36

BALANCE SHEET.	
Capital:—50,000 shares at \$10.00 each fully paid up	\$500,000.00
50,000 special shares at \$1.00 ea. fully paid up	50,000.00
	<hr/> \$550,000.00
Sundry creditors	134,776.95
Balance of profit and loss account	446,483.42
	<hr/> \$ 1,131,260.37

Kowloon:—Land, buildings and machinery as per last statement	\$200,735.18
Less depreciation	10,531.92
	<hr/> \$ 190,203.26
Since expended	2,531.92
	<hr/> \$ 192,735.18
Lines as per last statement	\$54,500.00
Less depreciation	3,529.44
	<hr/> \$ 50,970.56
Since expended	6,029.44
	<hr/> 57,000.00
Materials, stores, and fuel in stock valued at	67,857.71
Furniture as per last statement	\$1,400.00
Less depreciation	100.00
	<hr/> 1,300.00
Proportion of premia on unexpired policies	204.99
Sundry debtors	122,525.03
Cash on hand:—Head office	\$ 285.50
Canton	1,637.76
Kowloon	306.34
Company's bankers	687,407.86
	<hr/> 689,637.46
	<hr/> \$ 1,131,260.37

We are requested to state that the Superintendent of the Botanical and Forestry Department is prepared to undertake the clearing of superfluous brushwood from Crown land in the close vicinity of dwelling houses with the object of reducing the harbourage for mosquitoes which such brushwood is known to afford.

FAR EASTERN TELEGRAMS.

CHINA AND JAPAN.

IMPENDING SETTLEMENT OF ALL DISPUTES.

Tokyo, August 29th.

Agreements are pending which settle all disputes between Japan and China as a result of the protracted conferences between the Waiwupu and Mr. Ijuin, the Japanese Minister at Peking.

The Japanese Press welcomes the prospect of the settlement which is considered to be the outcome of the firm attitude taken up on the Antung-Mukden railway dispute. Stock Exchange quotations, as a result of this announcement, show a firm upward tendency.

[FROM THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO."]

NEW VICEROY OF CANTON.

Shanghai, August 20th.

The new Viceroy of Canton is to leave Nanking, where he met His Excellency Chang Jen-chun, on the 23rd instant, Monday, for Shanghai. He has appointed the 4th prox. as the date on which he will take over the seals of the office of Viceroy of the Two Kwang Provinces.

STEAMER DESTROYED BY FIRE.

Shanghai, August 22nd.

The steamer *Kiang-San* belonging to the China Merchant Steam Navigation Company was destroyed by fire, whilst proceeding to Wuhu yesterday.

ENGLISH OFFICER KILLED AT PEKING.

Peking, August 24th.

An English military officer was killed on Sunday last at the Railway Station near the city gate by being run over by a train.

YUAN SHI KAI.

Peking, August 24th.

It is reported that the Grand Secretaries have recommended the Throne owing to recent troubles with the Japanese to re-appoint Yuan hikai to office.

[This is regarded in Chinese circles as doubtful.—Dp.]

CHINESE IMMIGRATION INTO THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

Under the heading "Chinese Protectorate," Mr. Bland states in the Penang administration report for 1908 that Chinese Immigration fell off by nearly a third in 1908. This was doubtless one of the results of the acute financial depression which prevailed during the year, but it is none the less to be regretted, for the Chinese are the most energetic of our immigrants and one Chinese coolie will do the work of two Tamils. That "Colonial-born Chinese have been taking part in the doings of certain disorderly gangs" has been frequently mentioned in these columns; this presents a fresh difficulty for the Protectorate, as even when these disorderly gangs develop into organized secret societies their members, if they are British subjects cannot be banished. It seems a little strange that "the Chinese Advisory Board held no meeting during the year," for there have been several matters which might profitably have engaged their attention. Whether the members of the Board did not care to meet or the authorities neglected to call upon them to do so, we do not know; but we should have imagined that the Board, if properly constituted, would provide the Government with a valuable means of keeping in touch with the Chinese population. We note that "the returns show a steady decrease in the sale of chandu," and with yet greater satisfaction that the number of public house and retail liquor-shop licences also fell considerably, for we had always feared that a falling-off in the consumption of opium would be attended by a corresponding increase in the consumption of alcohol.—*Pinang Gazette*.

CHAIR BEARERS AND THEIR FARES.

Two interesting cases in which chair coolies were proceeded against for refusing fares were heard by Mr. F. A. Hazeland at the Magistracy on Aug. 20.

In the first Mr. Mowbray S. Northcote prosecuted two chair coolies for refusing hire in Icehouse Street, and his Worship, after hearing the evidence, imposed a fine of \$15, each bearer being ordered to contribute \$7.50 of the amount. The Magistrate remarked that chair coolies generally declined a corpulent man as a fare.

In the second case a chair bearer prosecuted a Portuguese resident for assault, and the latter cross-summoned the coolie for using abusive language and for refusing hire. It appears that as the defendant was walking up Shelley Street with a number of friends, it was decided that they should proceed in chairs. The usual cry of "Kiu" was followed by a rush of bearers, and all of the party were soon seated with the exception of the defendant, who being a corpulent man was not solicited for his patronage. When one of the bearers of the vacant chair declined to take him as a passenger the defendant offered to pay double fare. But this was insufficient inducement to the coolie, and after considerable argument the defendant lost his temper and struck the coolie a blow on the face. The latter fell to the ground as though he had been delivered a knock-out blow, and as he did not apparently revive after being allowed ample time, the man who struck him became alarmed, and probably had ideas of a future manslaughter charge. He caused the coolie to be removed to a house in the vicinity and sent post haste for a medical man. Meantime a "stiff nip" of brandy was poured into the coolie's mouth, and all were surprised when he very forcibly spluttered it out. Then a doctor arrived, and after an examination asserted that there was nothing wrong with the lifeless looking coolie, at the same time asserting that a "cumsha" would probably revive him. This, however, failed, and iced water was then resorted to. With the first trickle from a bottle a spasm shot through the inanimate form, but as soon as he got used to the revive the chair bearer relapsed again, so it was decided to take him to the Central Police Station. There he continued inert, so an ambulance was brought along and he was taken to the Government Civil Hospital. When laid on an operating table in the waiting room the invalid came to his senses almost as rapidly as if he had been galvanised, and stated that he did not wish the doctor's attention. The doctor, however, made an examination and pronounced the man to be sound. He was immediately discharged and walked forthwith to the Central Police Station, where he took out a summons against the Portuguese for assault. After hearing both summonses his Worship fined each of the parties \$7.

THE RECENT EARTHQUAKE IN JAPAN.

The *Japan Chronicle* of the 17th inst. prefaces a long report of the features of the recent earthquake with the following statement:—

The earthquake on Saturday afternoon, which had its centre a little north of Lake Biwa, resulted in a serious loss of life and great destruction of property. The centre of the disturbance appears to have been not far removed from that of the great earthquake in 1891, and it is worthy of note that the vibration registered in Kobe last Saturday was greater than that recorded in Osaka in 1891, when so much damage was caused in the neighbouring city. Fortunately, although the vibration was greater, the shocks last Saturday were less acute, otherwise we might have had to record a similar disaster to that which took place on the 28th October, 1891, when close on 10,000 people were killed and double that number injured in Aichi, Gifu, Fukui, and Shiga prefectures, 78 deaths occurring in Osaka fu. As it is, on this occasion some 40 lives have been lost, 168 persons have been injured, and 1,100 buildings have been totally destroyed.

EXPLOSION ON H. M. S. "OTTER."

A BRAVE MAN'S DEATH.

A private letter received from Weihaiwei dated August 19 states that on the night of August 16 one of the boiler tubes burst on board H. M. S. *Otter*, torpedo-boat destroyer, and as a result two men had died and another was lying in a precarious condition. It is the custom for the torpedo-boat destroyers to leave their moorings about 8 p.m. and to go outside for night-firing about three times a week, and on this occasion steam was being got up when the accident occurred. The steam from the explosion was seen from the shore. The funerals took place at 8 a.m. on the 18th instant.

WHAT HAPPENED ON BOARD.

Further details of the accident on board the *Otter* disclose a story of great bravery on the part of a second-class petty officer of the torpedo-boat destroyer. Unfortunately, we have no means of obtaining this man's name, but a sailor from one of his Majesty's ships at Weihaiwei recounted the incident as it was given to him. When the tube burst below there were about half-a-dozen men in the stoke-hold and vicinity. The bursting of the tube was followed by a huge volume of steam rushing from the hold, and realizing that an accident had occurred the petty officer forced his way below and immediately set to work to secure the safety of the ship and at the same time stop the rush of steam and scalding water. In this he was successful after a terrible experience. The work of getting the other men out was begun at once and it is reported that those who were below and got alive owe their lives to the bravery of this man. All the men were got to the deck alive, but one was so badly scalded that he died shortly afterwards, and another was very badly-injured, but it is thought that he may recover. When all danger was passed the petty officer came on deck, we are told, and said "Are the boys all right?" and on being answered in the affirmative he replied that he thought he was about finished. The man then collapsed, and he died without regaining consciousness. His hands were beyond description.

The accident occurred at about 6 o'clock at night and visitors on the island saw the steam issuing from the deck of the *Otter* and the pinnaces conveying the doctors on board. The two men who had died as a result of the injuries they had sustained were buried with full naval honours.—*N.C. Daily News*.

THE ASTOR HOUSE HOTEL, SHANGHAI.

At the annual meeting of shareholders of the Astor House Hotel, Shanghai, the Chairman (Mr. F. Ayscough) said the accounts showed that the past year's working had been an unprofitable one. They have, however, wiped off last year's debit balance and carried forward \$2,643.73 to this year's account. The directors much regretted the small profit shown, but thought that the management had been hampered by the new building operations, which had not only frightened visitors away from the hotel but had entailed a loss of twenty-four rooms; many of them the best in the hotel. There was a regrettable decrease of \$12,580 in the receipts under the heading of "rooms, board and chits"; bar and billiards showed a decrease of \$3,033; and in rents receivable, a decrease of \$3,156, owing to the reduction of rents of some of the company's shops which they had had to submit to in common with other landlords. One of the shareholders (Mr. McCabe) pointed out with regard to the statement that "the hotel this year shows a profit of \$6,844.71," that no less than \$5,100 represented profit on the sale of investments, and that but for the destruction of the Hankow Hotel by fire there would have been a loss of over \$5,000. The report and accounts were adopted.

The Directors of the Whangpoo Conservancy Board have decided to recommend to the Viceroy of the Liangkang Provinces that the agreement of Mr. de Rijke, the engineer-in-chief of the Board since its establishment three years ago, be renewed for another year.

COMMERCIAL

IMPORTS:—

RICE.

SAIGON.—Messrs. Wm. G. Hale & Co., in their latest circular dated Saigon 20th Aug., report:—Our last circular was issued on the 23rd ultimo and the latest postal advices received since are as follows:—Hongkong 17th instant; Yokohama 6th instant; Manila 13th instant; Java 13th inst.; Singapore 16th inst. and London 23rd ult.

We quote for September to October delivery.
No. 2 White sifted (*trié*) steam milled round \$3.95
No. 2 White unsifted (ordinary) steam milled (round) 3.60
5 % Cargo steam milled round ... 3.54
10 % Cargo steam milled round ... 3.40
20 % Cargo steam milled round ... 3.40

* Prices according to terms and conditions.

The following is a statement of this year's Exports of White Rice, Cargo Rice and Paddy:—

Destination.	Total pcs.
Hongkong	57,948
Manila	14,790
Iloilo	4,503
Cebu	24,569
Japan	25,478
Singapore	44,042
Batavia	22,871
Tjilapjap	1,689
Pascoeran	—
Samarang	1,215
Sourabaya	33,897
India	4,062
Ceylon	1,183
Madagascar	30
Réunion	17,37
Mauritius	12,202
Egypt	21,446
Australia	1,232
Europe	154,896

Total 443,090

Same period of last year 620,084

HONGKONG, 30th August:—The upward tendency continues, market being brisk.

Saigon, Ordinary	\$5.00 to \$5.05
" Round, Good quality ...	5.05 to 5.10
" Long	5.10 to 5.15
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2 ...	5.0 to 5.05
" Garden, " No. 1 ...	5.15 to 5.20
" White	5.25 to 5.30
" Fine Cargo	5.35 to 5.40

JAPAN MARKET INFORMATION.

Cotton Piece Goods.—Market quiet but firm with prospect of advance next month. Greys: some stock lots have changed hands. Whites: nothing doing. Woollens and Woollen Mixtures—Fancies in small supply, quotations firm; Plains: market fair. Raw Cotton—Market remains lifeless. No fresh transactions reported. Rice.—There is no marked change locally, but Saigon market has seen a considerable advance. No transactions have taken place locally. Metals.—Basis business is practically non-existent, and the market as a whole remains dull and as yet shows no sign of improvement corresponding to that reported from home. Window Glass.—Home prices are firm with an upward tendency. Some orders have been placed for forward shipment, but buyers generally have sufficient stocks. The market has been considerably influenced by the O-aka fire. Sugar.—Business in imported Refined has been entirely absent, and at this week's auction bids did not reach the Japan Refinery's limits. Flour.—The market seems to be a little more active with some enquiries. For known brands several small lots have been booked for sixty and ninety days shipment, but prices generally are still much too high to make business possible. Stocks are almost nil. Wheat.—Prices for new crop are slightly easier than at first anticipated, although not yet low enough to tempt millers here to operate.

PIECE GOODS.

Messrs. Noël, Murray & Co. in their Piece Goods Report, dated Shanghai 20th August, 1909, state:—There is little to add to our report of last week, everything remaining much as it was then so far as business goes. As regards the political aspect China has bowed to the inevitable, and expressed her acquiescence to the action of Japan with regard to the changes she wishes to make in the Railways she controls in Manchuria. It would be of great benefit to the country if this same firm and decisive action was followed by others and so help it out of the old groove it has got into again. All sorts of expensive schemes are being promulgated which cannot possibly come to anything, unless the rich resources of the country are speedily developed, and that cannot be done without the assistance of outside capital and experience. There is every promise now that Manchuria will outstrip the rest of the Empire in its progress. In the North it is being rapidly populated by emigrants from Russia, and in the South by Japanese, while labourers from China proper are rapidly finding the advantages of properly organised labour. According to the latest advices from Newchwang some radical change has taken place in the financial situation there, whereby the exchange relations with this port have undergone a vast improvement. For current transactions the quotation is about 6% discount, and 4% for December. It is not easy to find out the reason for this, however; the merchants there are trying to get better terms out of sellers here in consequence. There is a small business doing with most of our dependencies, but second-hand holders and the auctions seem able to supply the demand, it being the obvious determination of the Northern buyers to defer calling on importers for supplies to the last moment. Meanwhile a purely hand to mouth business is being done in all kinds, the idea, apparently being to tide over the next few weeks until the autumn demand, which is fully expected this year, sets in. No single market stands out as being exceptionally active, but all seem to be taking fair supplies. Weather conditions have improved during the interval, the intense heat having somewhat moderated and refreshing showers have been of great assistance to the crops. Manchester is very strong still, the market being maintained by the short time principle that has been pretty generally adopted by manufacturers. Although we do not hear of any fresh business going through for this port, we learn that some direct transactions have been arranged through a Japanese house for shipment to Hankow in staple goods. For this market a small but fairly general business continues to be done in indents for miscellaneous Fancy goods. The Liverpool Cotton market has recovered for Mid-American to 6.73d "spot" and 6.64d August, and yesterday's quotation for November/December was 6.43d. The New York market is, from all accounts, not quite so buoyant, but prices will have to come down very considerably before business is possible for this market. The quotations for Cotton are 12.28 cents for October and 12.25 cents for December. The Yarn market shows no signs of relaxation, the demand for Indian Spinnings being still very strong, though perhaps rather more restricted. In Bombay the market is said to be quite excited, a large business having been put through in the Greaves Cotton Company's Spinnings for shipment to China in September. Japanese and Local Spinnings are both enjoying a fair amount of attention. Native Cotton is also attracting considerable notice, contract on a free scale being entered into for Seed for delivery October-December at \$11.00 per picul, while moderate sales of Tungchow and Tachong are reported at Tls. 24.00 and Tls. 23.00 per picul for the same delivery. Spot business from first hands is practically at a standstill, and re-sales have been few and far between, while clearances are falling off. The following are reported to have changed hands amongst the natives in American Drills, namely:—Enoree FF Tls. 4.42½, Clifton R Tls. 4.47½ and Pepperell Tls. 5.27½, and in light weight Shirts, Piedmont XX 4.70 yard at Tals 3.37½, Piedmont LL and Pelzer LL both 4-yard at Tls. 3.65 and Tls. 3.27½ respectively. Cotton Flannels are receiving some attention, but only in retail quantities. At the Auctions prices realised for staple makes of Grey and White goods have been disappointing, especially at this morning's sale. There were a few exceptions, but nothing of importance. Turkey Reds and Fast Black Italians are both firmer, but Venetians are dragging. Woollens went at fairly steady to firm prices.

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, August 28th.

Quotations are:—

Malwa New	\$1,130/1,160 per picul.
Malwa Old	\$1,170/1,200 do.
Malwa Older	\$1,210/1,250 do.
Malwa Very Old	\$1,260/1,300 do.
Persian Fine Quality	\$1,100/1,130 do.
Persian Extra Fine	\$1,000/1,050 do.
Patna New	\$1,050 per chest.
Patna Old	— do.
Benares New	\$1,062½ do.
Benares Old	\$1,050 do.

EXPORTS:—

CAMPHOR

HONGKONG, 30th August:—The above market is at a standstill and prices remain as last quoted.

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

HANKOW, 19th Aug.—The prices quoted are for the net shipping weight excluding cost of packing for export:—

	Per picul
Cowhides, best selected	Tls. 38.00
Do. seconds	" 34.00
Buffalo hides, best selected	" 22.00
Goatskins, untanned, chiefly white colour	" —
Buffalo Horns, average 3 lbs. each	" —
White China Grass, Wuchang and/or Poochi	" 8.60
White China Grass, Sinshan and/or Chayu	" 8.00
Green China Grass, Szechuan	" —
Jute	" —
White Vegetable Tallow, Kinchow	" 11.20
White Vegetable Tallow, Pingchow and/or Macheng	" —
White Vegetable Tallow, Mongyu	" —
Green Vegetable Tallow, Kiyu	" 10.20
Animal Tallow	" 11.00
Gallnuts, usual shape	" 15.50
Gallnuts, plum do.	" 18.00
Tobacco Tingchow	" —
Tobacco, Wongkong	" —
Black Bristles,	" —
Feathers, grey and/or white Wild Duck	" —
Turmeric	" —
Sesamum Seed	" 5.80
Sesamum Seed Oil	" —
Wood Oil	" 10.00
Tea Oil	" —

Per P. & O. steamer *Caledonia* sailed on 21st August, 1909. For Manchester—501 bales waste silk, 1 case rubber. Bradford—200 bales waste silk, 138 bales pierced cocoons. Leith—1 case curios. Lyons—539 bales raw silk. St. Chammond—10 bales raw silk. St. Etienne—10 bales raw silk. London—528 b/c tea; 5 cases P. effects, 2 cases cigars, 25 bales waste silk, 5 cases silk, 95 bales raw silk, 2 cases old embroidery, 2 cases dies, 1 chest old clothing and clock. Milan—25 bales raw silk. Marseilles—35 bales raw silk, 8 cases bird feathers.

Per P. & O. steamer *Syria*, sailed on 25th August, 1909. For Manchester—100 bales waste silk. For Dundee—52 cases ginger. For Greenock—2 cases ginger. For Marseilles—402 bales waste silk, 5 bales feathers, 5 bales human hair. For London—20 cases narcissus bulbs, 31 cases china-ware, 2 cases woodware, 3,145 cases preserves, 20 cases bristles, 8 cases empty gas flasks, 116 cases preserved ginger, 7 cases curios, &c, 12 cases personal effects, 2 cases drawers and curios, 1 case cigars.

FREIGHT.

Hankow, 19th Aug.—Per Conference Steamers. To London and Northern Continental ports, 47/6 per ton of 40 cft. plus river freight. To Genoa, Marseilles or Haïre, 47/6 per ton of 40 cft. plus river freight. To New York (via Suez), General Cargo, 32/- per ton of 40 cft. plus river freight. To New York (via Suez), Tea 37/6 per ton of 40 cft. plus river freight. To New York (Overland) per carload; Tea G \$1.50 cents per lb gross less than carload Tea G \$1.75 cents per lb gross; plus river freight. To Shanghai.—Tea and General Cargo, Tls. 2.50 per ton, weight or measurement.

EXCHANGE.

HONGKONG, August 30th.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	1/8 1/2
Bank Bills, on demand	1/9
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/9 1/4
Bank Bills at 4 months' sight	1/9 1/2
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/9 1/4
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1/9 1/2
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	220
Credits 4 months' sight	223 1/2
ON GERMANY.—On demand	
ON NEW YORK.—Bank Bills, on demand	179
Credits, 60 days' sight	43 1/2
ON BOMBAY.—Telegraphic Transfer	
Bank, on demand	131 1/2
ON CALCUTTA.—Telegraphic Transfer	
Bank on demand	132
ON SHANGHAI.—Bank, at sight	
Private, 30 days' sight	74 1/2
ON YOKOHAMA.—On demand	
ON MANILA.—On demand	85
ON SINGAPORE.—On demand	86
ON BATAVIA.—On demand	74 1/2
ON HAI PHONG.—On demand	9 1/2 p.c. pm.
ON SAIGON.—On demand	9 p.c. pm.
ON BANGKOK.—On demand	86 1/2
SYBERIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	\$11.40
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	\$59 50
BAR SILVER, per oz	23 1/2

HONGKONG SHARE QUOTATIONS.

HONGKONG, 27th August, 1909.—Local stocks continue dull and inactive and we have but little to report in them. Rates remain fairly steady but have an inclination to weakness in most cases. Exchange on London T/T 1/9 1/16, and on Shanghai 74 1/2.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have ruled rather weaker and small sales have been made at 1,002 1/2 and 1,000 ex the dividend of \$22.72 paid on the 23rd instant, the market closing quiet with sellers at 1,002 1/2. Nationals remain unchanged and without business.

MARINE INSURANCE.—The market continues very dull and we have no sales or changes to report.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs are still enquired for at 345, but sellers ask higher rates and we have heard of no business. Chinas continue on offer at 115 without inducing buyers to come forward.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have been placed at 31 1/2, and sellers at 31 1/2 rule the market at time of closing. A small further demand at 31 1/2, however, remains unsatisfied. Indos have improved in the North to 48 Tls. but it is apparently quite a nominal rate. We have heard of no local business. Shells suffered a decline in the early part of the week to 70, but have since rallied to 72 1/2 on a recovery in London to 71/9 from 69/9. Other stocks under this heading call for no remarks.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have ruled fairly steady during the week at 139/140 with some small sales, the market closing with buyers at 140. Luzons have further advanced on a speculative demand from Manila to \$30 after sales at 26, 28 and 30, the market closing with sellers at the highest rate.

MINING.—With the exception of Chinese Engineerings, which have fallen to 18 1/2, and Langkats, which have again risen in the North to 1,075 we have nothing to report under this heading.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have been in some demand and the rate has improved to 60, ex the dividend of \$1 1/2 paid on the 24th instant, the market closing with further buyers. Kowloon Wharfs have been the medium of a fair business at 60 and 59, closing with buyers at the latter rate. Shanghai Docks have declined to 70 in the North. Hongkew Wharfs have improved to 150, after sales at 147 and 148.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands remain unchanged at 105 with buyers after some sales at that rate. West Points have been placed in small lots at 44. Hotels are a little quieter and we have only small sales at 45 for new to report. Humphreys close considerably lower and are obtainable at 9 1/2. Kowloon Lands remain on offer at 30.

COTTON MILLS.—Ewos have improved in the North to 139, Laou Kung Mows to 110,

Internationals to 90 and Soychees to 450. Hongkongs have declined to 7 with sellers.

RUBBERS.—A fair business has been put through under this heading, and the following sales have taken place. Sheldons at 29/6 and 30, Linggis at 23, Highlands and Lowlands at £2 5 prem., Golcondas at £2 9 and a £2 9 4. Kuala Lumpurs at £2 14 4 and Balgownies at 50, 51 and 52 Straits currency.

MISCELLANEOUS.—China Borneos have been placed at 13 1/2. Cements at 8.70, Electrics at 20 1/2. Ropes at 24, Union Waterboats at 10.80 and China Lights at 6 1/2, the latter closing with sellers. Watsons have been placed at 8. We have no further changes or business to report under this heading.

Quotations are as follows:—

STOCKS	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	\$1,002 1/2, sellers
National B. of China	26	\$95, cum divd
Bel's Asbestos E. A...	12/6d.	\$65, buyers
China-Borneo Co...	\$12	\$10, buyers
China Light & P. Co...	\$10	\$13 1/2, sales
China Provident	\$1	\$6 1/2, sales
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo Cotton S. & W.	Tls. 50	\$9.00, sellers
Hongkong C. S. Co.	\$10	Tls. 139
International	Tls. 75	\$7, sellers
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 90
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 110
Dairy Farm Co.	\$6	Tls. 450
Docks & Wharves—		
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$16 1/2, buyers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	
New Amoy Dock	\$54	
Shanghai Dock and Eng. Co., Ltd.	Tls. 100	
S'hai & H. Wharf	Tls. 100	Tls. 78
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	Tls. 150
G. Island Cement Co	\$10	\$11, sellers
Hongkong & C. Gas	\$10	\$8.70, sal. & sel.
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$210, buyers
Hongkong Hotel Co.	\$50	\$20 1/2, sales
Hongkong Ice Co.	\$25	\$75, (old).
H'kong Rope M. Co.	\$10	\$45, sales
Insurance—		
Canton	\$50	\$190, sellers
China Fire	20	\$24, sal. & sel.
China Traders	\$25	
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$195, sales & sel.
North China	25	\$115, sellers
Union	\$100	\$92, buyers
Yangtze	\$60	\$345, buyers
Land and Buildings—		
H'kong Land Invest.	\$100	Tls. 120, buyers
Humphreys' Estate	\$10	\$80, sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	
Shanghai Land	Tls. 50	\$105, sales & buy.
West Point Building	\$50	\$9 1/2, sellers
Mining—		
S. F. des C. du T'kin	Fr. 250	\$30, sellers
Raub	18/10d.	\$8, sellers
Peak Tramways Co., Ltd.	\$10	\$14 1/2
Philippine Co., Ltd.	\$1	\$11 1/2
Refineries—		
China Sugar	\$100	\$9, buyers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$625, buyers
Robinson Piano Co.	\$50	\$8, sellers
Steamship Companies		
China and Manila	\$25	\$14 1/2
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$1
H., Canton & M.	\$15	\$9, buyers
Indo-China S. N. Co.	25	\$10
Shell Transport Co.	21	\$100
Star Ferry	\$10	\$25
South China M. Post	\$25	\$24, sellers
Steam Laundry Co.	\$5	\$5 1/2
Stores & Dispensaries—		
Campbell, M & Co.	\$10	\$12
Wm. Powell, Ltd.	\$7	\$4, sellers
Watkins, Ltd.	\$10	\$5, sellers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$8, sales
Weissmann, Ltd.	\$100	\$150, buyers
United Asbestos	\$4	\$12.40
Union Waterboat Co.	\$10	\$300

SHANGHAI SHARE QUOTATIONS.

27th August, 1909.

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATION
Banks:—		
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	\$1,030, sales
National of China...	26	\$50, sales
Russo-Chinese	R187 1/2	Tls. 125
Insurance:—		
Union Society C't'n	\$100	\$840, sales
North-China	25	Tls. 120/121, sal.
Yangtze Assocn.	\$60	\$235
Canton	\$50	\$195, sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$360, sales
China Fire	\$20	\$116, buyers
Shipping:—		
Indo-China { pref. }	25	Tls. 48, buyers
Shell Trans. { def. }	21	71/3
& Trading { ord. }	210	\$9.10.0
S'hai Tug & { pref. }	250	Tls. 45, sellers
Lighter { ord. }	250	Tls. 52, buyers
Taku Tug & Lighter	250	Tls. 45
Kochien Transport- ation & To Boat	250	Tls. 50, sales
Docks & Wharves:—		
S'hai Dock & Eng...	T100	Tls. 77, buyers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$60, sales
S. & H'kew Wharf	T100	Tls. 150, buyers
H. K'loon W. & G.	\$50	\$60, sales
Yangtze	T100	Tls. 205, sales
Sugar Companies:—		
Perak Cultivation	T50	Tls. 300
China Refining	\$100	\$140, sales
Mining:—		
Raub Australian	21	Tls. \$3 1/2, sellers
Chinese Eng. & Min.	21	Tls. 18 1/2, sellers
Lands:—		
S'hai Investment	T50	Tls. 119, sales
H'kong Investment	\$100	\$105, buyers
Humphreys' Estate	T10	\$9 1/2, buyers
Weiweiwei	T20	Tls. 9
China	T50	Tls. 50
Anglo-French	T100	Tls. 105, sales
Cotton:—		
Ewo	T50	Tls. 139, buyers
Shanghai Cotton	T50	Tls. 78, sales
Internationals	T75	Tls. 92
Laou Kung Mow	T100	Tls. 114, sellers
Soy Chees	T500	Tls. 450, buyers
Industrial:—		
Shanghai Gas	T50	Tls. 112 1/2, sellers
Major Brothers	T50	Tls. 52 1/2
Shanghai Ice	T25	Tls. 16 1/2, sales
China Flour Mill	T50	Tls. 41 sal. & b.
S'hai Pulp & Paper	T100	Tls. 35, buyers
Green Is. Cement	\$10	\$9, sales
Maatschappij, &c., in Langkat	Gs. 100	Tls. 1,067 1/2, buy.
Shanghai - Sumatra Tobacco	T20	Tls. 150, buyers
Dominion Rubbers	T6	Tls. 14 1/2
S'hai Waterworks	220	Tls. 425
Anglo-Ger. Brewery	\$100	\$75
A. Butler Cement	T50	Tls. 20
Tile Works	T50	Tls. 190
Kalumpang Rubber	T100	Tls. 272 1/2, buyers
S. R. ber Estates	21	Tls. 16 1/2, buyers
T. R. & T. Estate Co.	210	Tls. 10
Eastern Fibre	210	
Shanghai Electric Construction	210	27.15.0. sales
Miscellaneous:—		
Hall & Holtz	\$20	\$23, sellers
A. Llewellyn	\$60	\$65
A. S. Watson & Co.	\$10	\$8 1/2, buyers
Central Ordinary	\$15	\$17 1/2, sales & b.
Central Founders	\$15	\$400, buyers
S. Moutrie & Co.	\$50	\$42 1/2
Weeks & Co.	\$20	\$27, sellers
Astor House Hotel	\$25	\$17, buyers
Hongkong Hotel Co.	\$50	\$70, sel. ex div.
Hotel des Colonies	T12.50	Tls. 5 1/2
Tsingtao Hotel	\$100	Tls. 75
Lane, Crawford & Co.	\$100	\$165
Dunning & Co.	\$50	\$35
S'hai Horse Bazar	T50	Tls. 55
S'hai Mercury	T50	Tls. 50
S'hai Mutual Tele.	T50	Tls. 65, buyers
China Im. & Ex.	T100	Tls. 75
Lumber	\$25	\$21
Shanghai Electric & Asbestos	T70	Tls. 25
Dallas Horse Repository	T50	Tls. 50
China Printing Co.	T50	

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

J. P. BISSET & Co.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

August:—
 ARRIVALS.
 19, Indrawadi, British str., from Shanghai.
 19, Petchaburi, German str., from Bangkok.
 20, Caledonia, British str., from Shanghai.
 20, Empire, British str., from Sydney.
 20, Fooksang, British str., from Calcutta.
 20, Hainun, British str., from Swatow.
 20, Kashing, Br. str., from Haiphong.
 20, Prinz Waldemar, Ger. str., from Sydney.
 20, Soshu Maru, Jap. str., from Swatow.
 20, Taming, British str., from Manila.
 21, Americ Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.
 21, C. Diedrichsen, Ger. str., from Hoihow.
 21, Huichow, British str., from Tientsin.
 21, Kaifong, British str., from Iloilo.
 21, Mongolia, Am. str., from San Francisco.
 22, Anhui, British str., from Shanghai.
 22, Dunbar, British str., from Vladivostok.
 22, Flintshire, British str., from London.
 22, Ithaka, German str., from Hongay.
 22, Kiukiang, British str., from Weihaiwei.
 22, Laertes, British str., from Yokohama.
 22, Machao, British str., from Liverpool.
 22, Pongtong, Ger. str., from Bangkok.
 22, Silesia, Austrian str., from Japan.
 22, Wongkoi, German str., from Bangkok.
 23, Bushu Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.
 23, Carnarvonshire, Br. str., from Shanghai.
 23, Cathay, Danish str., from Singapore.
 23, Germania, German str., from Wakamatsu.
 23, Haiching, British str., from Coast Ports.
 23, Hanyang, British str., from Moji.
 23, Knysberg, German str., from Hoihow.
 23, Meefoo, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 23, Meinam, French str., from Singapore.
 23, Quinta, German str., from Sourabaya.
 23, Thordis, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.
 23, Zafiro, British str., from Manila.
 24, Chipshing, British str., from Tientsin.
 24, Eskdale, British str., from Moji.
 24, Haimun, British str., from Swatow.
 24, Mausang, British str., from Sandakan.
 24, Miyasaki Maru, Jap. str., from London.
 25, Banri Maru, Jap. str., from Miike.
 25, Carnarvonshire, Br. str., from Hankow.
 25, Daigi Maru, Jap. str., from Swatow.
 25, Fooshing, Brit. str., from Chingwantao.
 25, Frithjof, Nor. str., from Haiphong.
 25, Goeben, German str., from Shanghai.
 25, Haitan, British str., from Swatow.
 25, Hangsang, British str., from Shanghai.
 25, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
 25, Helene, German str., from Swatow.
 25, Kutsang, British str., from Moji.
 25, Laisang, Br. str., from Calcutta.
 25, Linan, British str., from Shanghai.
 25, Nile, British str., from London.
 25, Phranang, Ger. str., from Bangkok.
 25, Syria, British str., from Shanghai.
 25, Takasaki Maru, Jap. str., from Singapore.
 25, Yuensang, British str., from Manila.
 26, Andalusia, German str., from Shanghai.
 26, Empress of China, Br. str., from Vancouver.
 26, Mandasan Maru, Jap. str., from Miike.
 26, Mishima Maru, Jap. str., from Japan.
 26, Pheumpenh, British str., from Manila.
 August:—
 DEPARTURES.
 20, Benlawers, British str., for Nagasaki.
 20, C. Ferd. Laeisz, Ger. str., for Shanghai.
 20, Haiyang, British str., for Swatow.
 20, Kanagawa Maru, Jap. str., for Kobe.
 20, Lismore, British str., for Iloilo.
 20, Loongsang, British str., for Manila.
 20, Slavonia, German str., for Straits.
 21, Bombay Maru, Jap. str., for Singapore.
 21, Caledonia, British str., for Europe, &c.
 21, Changsha, British str., for Manila.
 21, Choysang, British str., for Shanghai.
 21, Derwent, British str., for Saigon.
 21, Indrawadi, British str., for Singapore.
 21, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 21, Luchow, British str., for Chefoo.
 21, Prinz Waldemar, German str., for Kobe.
 21, Tjibodas, Dutch str., for Batavia.
 22, Chenan, British str., for Shanghai.
 22, Cheongshing, Brit. str., for Swatow.
 22, Daijin Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
 22, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
 22, Helene, German str., for Swatow.
 22, Vorwaerts, German str., for Hoihow.
 23, Rubi, British str., for Manila.
 24, Aldenham, British str., for Australia.
 24, Cathay, Danish str., for Shanghai.
 24, C. Diedrichsen, Ger. str., for Hoihow.

24, Clara Jobsen, German str., for Hongay.
 24, Flintshire, British str., for Shanghai.
 24, Fooksang, British str., for Shanghai.
 24, Kaifong, British str., for Cebu.
 24, Kjeld, Norwegian str., for Chefoo.
 24, Kwangse, British str., for Swatow.
 24, Laertes, British str., for Singapore.
 24, Machaon, British str., for Shanghai.
 24, Meinam, French str., for Chingwantao.
 24, Paoting, British str., for Hoihow.
 24, Simongan, Dutch str., for Saigon.
 24, Soshu Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.
 24, Taming, British str., for Manila.
 25, Ashtabula, Brit. str., for San Francisco.
 25, Aymeric, British str., for Shanghai.
 25, Carnarvonshire, British str., for Manila.
 25, Choising, German str., for Bangkok.
 25, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
 25, Hilary, German str., for Tsingtau.
 25, Kwangtah, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 25, Miyasaki Maru, Japanese str., for Moji.
 25, Nile, British str., for Shanghai.
 25, Silesia, Austrian str., for Singapore.
 26, Anhui, British str., for Shanghai.
 26, Bushu Maru, Jap. str., for Wakamatsu.
 26, Carnarvonshire, Brit. str., for Singapore.
 26, Goeben, German str., for Europe, &c.
 26, Kweiyang, British str., for Tsingtau.
 26, Pakhoi, British str., for Ningpo.
 26, Syria, British str., for Singapore.
 26, Thordis, Norwegian str., for Bangkok.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per *Haitan*, from Swatow, Mr W. Thom.
 Per *Haimun*, from Swatow, Mrs Warrack.
 Per *Fooksang*, from Singapore, Mr and Mrs Stevens.
 Per *Kashing*, from Haiphong, Mr and Mrs Guilling.
 Per *Yuensang*, from Manila, Mr and Mrs MacKee.
 Per *Mausang*, from Sandakan, Messrs Ashton and Ward.
 Per *Petchaburi*, from Bangkok, Messrs Pender and Vaughan.
 Per *Kaifong*, from Iloilo, Captain E. Shard Gray and J. J. White.
 Per *Haiching*, from Coast Ports, Messrs Isaac and Neighbour.
 Per *Kutsang*, from Japan, &c., Mr and Mrs Palmer, and Mr Vernon.
 Per *Anhui*, from Shanghai, Capt. Greenway, Messrs MacNaughton and Mahon.
 Per *Miyasaki Maru*, from London, &c., Misses Gangaloz and E. A. Smith, and Mr J. F. Gaw.
 Per *Chipshing*, from Tientsin, &c., Mrs Edwards, Miss W. Edwards and Major Connolly.
 Per *Taming*, from Manila, Mrs. Shinazki, Miss D. Carpen, Messrs Henderson, James, and Capt. Bates.
 Per *Haimun*, from Swatow, Mr and Mrs Moore and 3 children, Miss P. Greene and Mr Brotherton Harker.
 Per *Aldenham*, from Japan, Mr and Mrs Burton, Mr. Mrs and Miss Ayrton, Mr and Mrs Marshall and two children, Mrs Morgan, Miss Bateman and Capt. Holm.
 Per *Zafiro*, from Manila, Mr. Mrs and Master Kitchens, Mrs B. Harvay, Mrs Lily Bottle, Messrs T. Kaufmann, S. L. Cohen, Wm. Hunter, J. E. Foster, G. Moffat and F. Le Breton.
 Per *Empire*, from Australian Ports via Ports & Manila, for Hongkong, Messrs. D. Brandas, J. Canha, Father Jesus, A. Mitchell, H. P. Wilson; for Shanghai, Mrs. W. H. Clarke and infant, Mrs. C. Pierce; for Kobe, Mrs. Longworth and Mr. J. O'Neil.
 Per *Mongolia*, from San Francisco, &c., Mr and Mrs John Lake, Mr and Mrs E. Machuca and 2 children, Mr and Mrs Wm. M. Milne, Mr and Mrs J. E. Ward, Mr and Mrs C. C. Scott, Capt. and Mrs A. H. Martin, U.S.A., Mrs E. A. Gibbs, Mrs W. Walch, Mrs C. R. Harvey and 2 children, Mrs A. V. Weaver, Mrs B. E. Thomas and 2 children, Mrs W. W. Gray and daughter, Misses B. Martin and M. de la Cruz, Lt. R. B. Weaver, Messrs F. H. Allen, D. N. Assomull and servant, W. C. Reibling, L. A. Amade, F. J. Daly, H. D. Gibbs, W. M. Browne, C. G. Warfel, A. J. Gibson & child, Olaf C. Hansen, A. Mackenzie, N. C. Gomford, R. L. Harding and C. W. Rosenstock.

Per *Mishima Maru*, from Japan, &c., Mrs M. Miki, Misses H. R. Rodd and L. J. Bryer, Master F. E. Glassey, Messrs E. Hearl, T. W. Taylor, T. Ide, T. Ojike, K. Imamura, C. D. Sayer and S. Izumaru.

Per *Goeben*, for Hongkong, from Yokohama, Messrs Cairncross and Young; from Kobe, Mr Baumann; from Nagasaki, Mr Chryssecos; from Shanghai, Miss D. Komaroff, Messrs T. Danielsenft, D. Smith, De Sabonlage, M. Bon, 'h. Rees and family.

Per *Prinz Waldemar*, for Hongkong, from Sydney, Mr and Mrs Alex. Krause; from Friedrich Wilhelmshafen, Miss G. Glitz and Pastor Kriele; from Yap, Misses L. and D. O'Keefe, Messrs Isoda and Mackey; from Simpsonhafen, Mr Bertram; from Manila, Mr and Mrs D. Determann.

Per *Empress of China*, for Hongkong, from Vancouver, B.C.; Mr and Mrs Morecroft, Messrs W. A. Hannibal, C. G. Edwards and H. T. Pretions; from Yokohama, Miss Cadbury and Count A. Desfours; from Kobe, Messrs Jacob Mees and J. B. Gunn; from Nagasaki, Mrs A. C. Beck; from Shanghai, Rev. F. C. Johnson, Messrs Emile Saussine, G. Bohr and H. T. Lawson.

Per *Nile*, from London, for Hongkong, Mr and Mrs H. Tanner and infant, Messrs S. Tradgold and H. Hall; for Manila, Mr G. Carter; for Shanghai, Mr and Mrs W. Argent, Captain and Mrs W. Lloyd Jones, Mrs C. T. Rose, Mrs C. Godfrey and child, Mrs Grieve and two children, Messrs J. Baxter and J. Harpur; for Yokohama, Misses Muspratt and Wilkinson, and Mr Monkman.

Per *Caledonia*, from Shanghai, for Hongkong, Mrs Harrison, Miss Briggs, Messrs W. D. Fraser, E. Hunt, P. de Faria e Naia and G. V. Jesus; for Singapore, Mr W. H. Bolton; for Colombo, Lt. L. T. Sackville West, Lt. N. G. Begtie and Mr W. B. Rendle; for Bombay, Mrs Karanjia, 2 infants and amah, and Mr N. D. Bhatena; for London, Mr and Mrs W. Ruxton and infant; from Kobe, for Bombay, Mr S. Nakashima.

Per *Syria*, for Hongkong, from Kobe, Mrs Moyes & child, from Shanghai, Rev. T. W. Scholes, Messrs W. Davies, W. Irvine, W. J. Miles, W. I. Emery and G. Chapman; from Yokohama, for Bombay, Miss Baird; for London, from Shanghai, Mrs C. F. Edwards and child, Master and Mrs Wallace and child, Mr J. S. B. Coull; from Foochow, Mrs Helbing, child and amah; from Yokohama, Mrs and Miss Worth, and Miss Nield.

Per *Tenyo Maru*, from San Francisco, &c., Mr and Mrs Amos E. Allen, Mr and Mrs C. Klinck, Mr and Mrs G. N. Lamb, Mr and Mrs L. H. Moore, Mr and Mrs J. A. Mannington and 2 children, Mr and Mrs H. Dyson Simpson, Mr and Mrs B. Druss and 5 children, Mr and Mrs H. Druss and 2 children, Mrs M. Gubbay, Mrs T. B. Tolman and 2 children, Mrs F. West, Judge Adolph Wislizenus, Messrs E. O. Child, C. H. Forst, Oishi, R. Soffetti, J. O. Becker, S. J. Harris, John Helbig, N. and I. Hass, V. Schmidt and T. Weinstein.

DEPARTED.

Per *Rubi*, for Manila, Mrs Masui Sumi, Miss E. Morrison, Messrs W. J. Sparks, S. Alfonso, W. Kampton, O. T. White, E. B. C. Quian Po, R. Soriano, V. Gutierrez, L. Perin & L. Petaha.

Per *Kanagawa Maru*, for Japan, &c., Misses Seki, Toyo and Shimada, Captains Lon and Davy, Messrs F. W. Ball, Aoyagi, W. J. E. Bell, J. C. Fender, K. Konagai, Nishimura, Ishimaru, Painter, F. and W. Bloomfield.

Per *Miyasaki Maru*, for Japan, Mr and Mrs A. Nilson, Mr, Mrs and Miss Ohtori, Mrs T. Hyodo, Masters K. and R. Ohtori, Sisters H. Meyer, D. Stender, D. Leykan and Choquelle, J. Shimidzu, N. Kobayashi and M. Isoda.

Per *Goeben*, for Singapore, Mr and Mrs C. Kingmann, Mr and Mrs Chu, Mr and Mrs W. M. Milene, Mr and Mrs E. Brown, Messrs G. Grant, H. Kaufmann, Edwards, F. H. Allen, W. E. Gardner and C. Fletcher; for Colombo, Mr S. E. Allane; for Genoa, Mr and Mrs W. H. Kitchens, Messrs A. Determann, J. J. White and Wm. Huter; for London, Mrs A. Determann; for Bremen, Mr Mackey; for Antwerp, Mr O. Hoeg.

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